

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 1 of 57

**"The most precious gift
we can offer anyone is
our attention."**

-Thich Nhat Hanh



- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Frost Construction Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- Obit: James Torguson
- 3- Netters beat Britton-Hecla
- 4- Donley works on pool mural
- 5- Wolves FB team loses to Bemidji State
- 6- Redfield Cross Country Results
- 6- Groton Care & Rehab Ad
- 7- Groton Blood Drive
- 8- Today in Weather History
- 9- Today's Forecast
- 10- Yesterday's Weather
- 10- National Weather map
- 10- Today's Weather Almanac
- 11- Daily Devotional
- 12- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 13- News from the Associated Press

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East
Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers
and aluminum cans.

The logo for Frost Construction Inc. is enclosed in a black rectangular border. On the left is a stylized house icon with two windows. To its right, the word 'FROST' is written in large, bold, red, sans-serif capital letters. Below 'FROST', 'CONSTRUCTION INC.' is written in smaller, red, sans-serif capital letters. Underneath that, 'GENERAL CONTRACTOR' is written in white, sans-serif capital letters inside a black rectangular box. At the bottom, the phone number '605.290.1535' is displayed in red, bold, sans-serif font. Below the phone number, the text 'custom homes | remodels | additions' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

Friday, Aug. 31

No School

7 p.m.: Football at Sisseton

The Life of James Torguson



Services for James D. "Jim" Torguson, 86, of Andover will be 2:00 p.m., Friday, August 31st at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. Rev. Howie Krienke will officiate. Burial will follow in Union Cemetery, Groton under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held Friday at the funeral home beginning at 10 a.m.

Jim passed away August 28, 2018 at Sun Dial Manor, Bristol.

James Delbert Torguson was born on January 5, 1932 at the family farm in Farmington Township, Day County, SD to John "Jack" and Della (Fuglesten) Torguson. He was confirmed in 1946 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Pierpont, SD and attended area country schools. Jim later became a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Groton, SD. He enlisted with the US Air Force in 1952 and was stationed in Merced, California, Spokane, Washington, Albuquerque, New Mexico and Thule, Greenland. Following his honorable discharge, he spent time in Salt Lake City, Utah where he worked in refrigeration. Jim returned to South Dakota where he farmed and raised cattle with his family. In the 1960s, he and his brother shipped hay for a number of years. He also drove truck for Freddy Meints and Bill Rogers Trucking during the fall and winter. Jim enjoyed telling stories of his truck driving days. Jim was actively farming and helping his nephew and niece haul cattle to pasture within a week of having to move to Sun Dial Manor in Bristol in July of 2013.

Jim had a passion for agriculture and livestock. He enjoyed working with cattle and horses. He always looked forward to calving season, even if it usually meant fighting mud and a feisty cow or two. Jim had a favorite horse named Dusty that he shared many stories about with the care givers at Sun Dial Manor. Dusty was a faithful companion to Jim for years. He spent many hours in his John Deere tractors feeding cattle, moving snow, and doing field work. Jim was an avid welder in his younger years and was quite the handy man when it came to fixing equipment.

Jim served as Farmington Township Supervisor for 30 years.

Celebrating his life are his nieces and nephews, Lanny R. Torguson of Andover, SD, Tanya A Torguson (Jeff Wolff) of Bath, SD, Jerome (Connie) Overmier of Billings, Montana and Dalon (Ken) Livingston of Las Vegas, Nevada.

Preceding him in death were his parents, his sister and brother-in-law, Joyce (F.W. Overmeir), his brother and sister-in-law, D. Duane (Marlys Schott) Torguson and his nephew, Steve Overmier.

Honorary Casketbearers will be all of the Employees at Sun Dial Manor, Bristol.

Casketbearers will be Robert Osterman, Jason Osterman, TJ Davis, Loel Schott, Randy Wagner, Todd Aadland and William LaMee.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 3 of 57



Miranda Hanson (8) sets the ball. Also pictured are Jennie Doeden (16), Eliza Wanner (11) and Nicole Marzahn (4). (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Kaylin Kucker
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Eliza Wanner
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Payton Colestock
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Jennie Doeden
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

Netters down Britton-Hecla in three games

Groton Area's volleyball team improved to 6-1 on the season with a 3-0 win over Britton-Hecla. The match was played Thursday evening in Britton.

Match scores were 25-15, 25-9 and 25-13. Kaylin Kucker had three ace serves at the end of the third game to secure the win for the Tigers. Kucker finished the night with five ace serves. Jennie Doeden led the offense with 11 kills and an ace serve. Eliza Wanner and Payton Colestock each had six kills, Nicole Marzahn had five, Indigo Rogers had three kills and a block, Payton Maine had three ace serves, Miranda Hanson had a kill and an ace serve, Taylor Holm had two kills and Tadyn Glover had an ace serve.

Britton-Hecla had seven kills on the night, two blocks and four ace serves.

Groton Area also won the junior varsity match, 25-10, 10-25 and 15-11.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 4 of 57



Nicole Marzahn

(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Tadyn Glover

(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Emma Donley continues to work on the mural at the Groton pool inside the building. She has spent countless hours perfecting her masterpiece. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Northern State Football Drops Season Opener to Bemidji State

Bemidji, Minn. – The Northern State University football team fell to Bemidji State 38-17 in the 2018 season opener on the road. The Wolves brought things within seven in the third quarter; however the Beavers broke things open in the final 16 minutes of action.

Bemidji State scored first to open the game, notching a field goal and touchdown by the 7:30 mark in the quarter. The Wolves cut the lead to seven, as Mitch Tschakert sent is first field goal of the year, a 35-yard attempt, through the uprights. BSU added a touchdown as the clock wound down in the second quarter, and held a 17-3 lead at the half.

The Wolves opened the second half scoring, and cut the Beaver lead to seven for the second time in the game with a 1-yard rushing touchdown by Gerald Maxwell. The touchdown was the first of Maxwell's career. BSU answered the score early and often with two rushing scores and one passing in the closing seconds of the third quarter, and opening minutes of the fourth. Jacob Streit added the final touchdown of the evening for the Wolves, a 15-yard pass from Hunter Trautman.

Streit led the Wolves receivers in his first career start with 86 yards, including a 26 yard long. Maxwell and Robert Vomacka were second on the team with 27 receiving yards apiece, while Dakota Larson and Spencer Johnson notched 24 and 22 respectively. Trautman threw for a game high 202 yards, completing 20-of-43 attempts, however gave up the only interception of the game. Chaka Kelly led the Wolves rushers with 72 yards, followed by Maxwell and Trautman with 66 and 46 respectively.

Noah MacPherson led the Wolves defense with 14 tackles in the game, including eight solo stops. Alex Gray followed with eight tackles of his own, including a team leading 1.5 tackles for a total loss of three yards. Preston Droessler and Landon Hoellein notched six tackles each, while Etienne Ezeff, Brayden McNeary, Brady Thielges, Josh Coyle, and Jacob Cross recorded four apiece. Droessler tallied the lone pass break-up of the evening, and likewise, Coyle notched the long sack for a total loss of 11 yards.

Jacob Wiedrich punted for 238 yards, with a 47-yard long and 39.7 net punt average. The senior also tallied 190 yards on four kickoffs with two touchbacks. Tschakert connected for 1-of-2 field goals, and hit both PATs.

As a team, the Wolves tallied 27 first downs to the Beavers 19, and converted on 11-of-25 third downs. NSU combined for 173 yards rushing and 202 yards passing, for 375 yards of total offense. Northern also converted on 2-of-4 fourth downs, and scored on 3-of-4 chances in the red-zone. A total of 13 Wolves notched multiple tackles in the loss, combining for 5.0 tackles for a loss of 23 yards.

The Wolves return home next Thursday, September 6 for the fourth annual InsuraCrop Ag Bowl. Northern will face off against Minot State at 7 p.m. in the NSIC/MidcoSN Game of the Week.

Smith is medalist at Redfield meet

Groton Area's cross country team took part in its first meet of the season Thursday at Redfield. Isaac Smith was a medalist in the boys 5,000m race with a 14th place finish. The results are as follows:

Girls 5K race

49, AnneMarie Smith, 25:42.54.

Boys 5K Race

14, Isaac Smith, 18:39.73; 48, Mitchell Koens, 21:40.12; 63, Noah Poor, 22:27.17; 77, Spencer Jacobs, 27:19.72.

Girls JV 3K Race

39, Sierra Ehresmann, 16:05.29; 46, Rylie Rosenau, 16:45.77; 52, Lillian Brooks, 17:51.64.

Boys JV 3K Race

37, Dylan Abeln, 13:03.63; 50, Jackson Garstecki, 13:25.60; 66, Steven Paulson, 14:12.55; 70, Bradin Althoff, 15:24.87; Kannon Coats, 15:30.70.

We Are Hiring!

Housekeeping

Laundry

Stop in or call

We are an equal employment opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law.



1106 N 2nd Street ~ Groton, SD ~ 605-397-2365

Groton's Blood Drive Brings in 25 Volunteers

Groton, SD hosted a blood drive with United Blood Services on August 23 at the Community Center which helped collect a total of 24 units of blood for patients in need.

A total of 25 individuals volunteered to donate blood and 21 individuals were able to donate at the United Blood Services blood drive on August 23. A total of three donors also came forward to donate Power Red Cells (2RBC) which collects two units of red blood cells while returning platelets, plasma and a saline solution back to the donor.

United Blood Services expressed their gratitude to Kathy Sundermeyer, who coordinated the drive, as well as others who assisted the day of the drive: Rose Locke and Daryl Sundermeyer.

UBS strives to keep a 5-day supply of every blood type on the shelf at all times to be able to meet the needs of patients across the region. Donations from O-negative donors, the universal blood type, are especially important this time of year due to increased accidents and trauma cases.

United Blood Services is the only blood provider to nearly 70 hospitals across the region. The blood supply is dependent on selfless donations from volunteer donors to ensure the lifesaving needs of the region are met.

About 30 percent of UBS's blood supply goes to cancer patients across the region and one in seven people entering the hospital will need blood. Those relying on blood in the region receive that lifesaving blood from UBS.

Donors can make a convenient appointment to give blood at www.bloodhero.com or by calling (877)827-4376. With each donation, donors receive a free total cholesterol test and earn points in United Blood Services' Hero in Me rewards program.

Blood donation takes about an hour from check-in to refreshments. Donors can save about 20 minutes by completing their Fast Track Health History the day they donate on www.unitedbloodservices.org



Mike Weber was one of three donors who donated Power Red Cells which collects two units of red blood cells while returning platelets, plasma and a saline solution back to the donor. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 8 of 57

Today in Weather History

August 31, 1977: High winds accompanying thunderstorms moved across the southern part of Brown County during the early morning hours. A barn was destroyed three miles west of Warner. Many trees were damaged in the Stratford area. A large, empty fuel tank, southeast of Watertown was folded inward by strong winds. High wind damage was also reported in Faulk and Day Counties.

August 31, 2013: Thunderstorms produced numerous reports of large hail and damaging winds in and near Sioux Falls on the evening of August 31st. Large hail broke windows and damaged many vehicles, as well as siding and roofs on the west side of Sioux Falls. One automobile dealer with a large temporary outdoor display reported four thousand cars were damaged. Estimated property damage was listed at four million dollars. Thunderstorm winds also destroyed several businesses, including a large retail store which was also struck by lightning. The large store lost part of its roof, while the stockroom of the same store and its contents were also damaged. A canopy type tent was destroyed, and a 20-foot retaining wall was blown down. The winds caused extensive tree damage, including several trees blown down, one of which blocked a major intersection when it fell.

1886: A magnitude 7.3 earthquake shook Charleston, South Carolina around 9:50 pm on this day. This earthquake is the most damaging quake to occur in the southeast United States. This earthquake caused 60 deaths and between 5 to 6 million dollars in damage to over 2,000 buildings in the southeastern United States.

1915 - The temperature at Bartlesville, OK, dipped to 38 degrees to establish a state record for the month of August. (The Weather Channel)

1922: An incredible hailstorm occurred near West Chester, PA dropped so much hail that fields were covered with up to two feet of drifted hail the next day.

1935: The most intense hurricane to make landfall was a modest tropical depression on this day. Called the Labor Day Hurricane, this storm went through phenomenal intensification to become a Category 5 hurricane by September 2nd.

1954 - Hurricane Carol swept across eastern New England killing sixty persons and causing 450 million dollars damage. It was the first of three hurricanes to affect New England that year. (David Ludlum)

1971 - The low of 84 degrees and high of 108 degrees at Death Valley, CA, were the coolest of the month. The average daily high was 115.7 degrees that August, and the average daily low was 93.4 degrees. (The Weather Channel)

1984 - Lightning ignited several forest fires in Montana, one of which burned through 100,000 acres of timber and grassland. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Eight cities in Washington and Oregon reported record high temperatures for the date, including Eugene OR and Portland OR with afternoon highs of 102 degrees. The high of 102 degrees at Portland smashed their previous record for the date by twelve degrees. Frost was reported in South Dakota. Aberdeen SD established a record for the month of August with a morning low of 32 degrees, and Britton SD dipped to 31 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - August ended on a relatively mild and tranquil note for most of the nation. Forest fires in the northwestern U.S. scorched 180,000 acres of land during the last week of August. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing along a stationary front spread severe weather from Minnesota to Indiana through the course of the day and night. Thunderstorms in Minnesota produced baseball size hail near Saint Michael and Hutchinson, and drenched Moose Lake with nine inches of rain in six hours. Tucson AZ hit 100 degrees for a record 79th time in the year, surpassing a record established the previous year. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

Broton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 9 of 57

Today

Tonight

Saturday

Saturday
Night

Sunday



Chance
Showers then
Slight Chance
T-storms

High: 82 °F



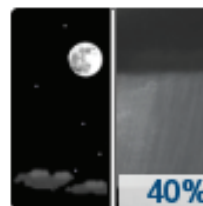
Mostly Clear

Low: 52 °F



Sunny

High: 81 °F



Mostly Clear
then Chance
Showers

Low: 58 °F



Slight Chance
Showers

High: 77 °F

Severe Storms Possible Later This Afternoon/Tonight



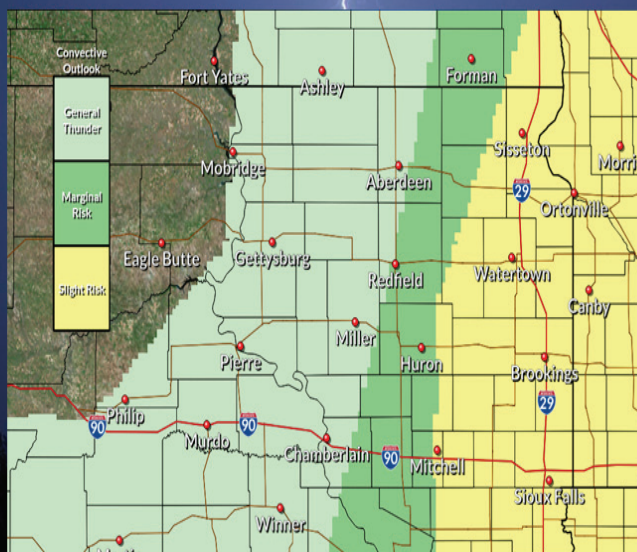
Winds
Up to 60 mph



Hail
Up to 1.5 Inches



Unlikely



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 8/31/2018 6:07 AM Central

Published on: 08/31/2018 at 6:13AM

An area of low pressure will move through the region today, bringing showers and thunderstorms with it, especially across eastern South Dakota and west central Minnesota this afternoon and evening. Some storms could be severe with large hail and damaging winds possible.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 10 of 57

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 80.3 F at 5:42 PM

Heat Index:

Low Outside Temp: 61.3 F at 6:10 AM

High Gust: 34.0 Mph at 11:14 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 98° in 1898, 1921

Record Low: 32° in 1987

Average High: 78°F

Average Low: 52°F

Average Precip in Aug: 2.35

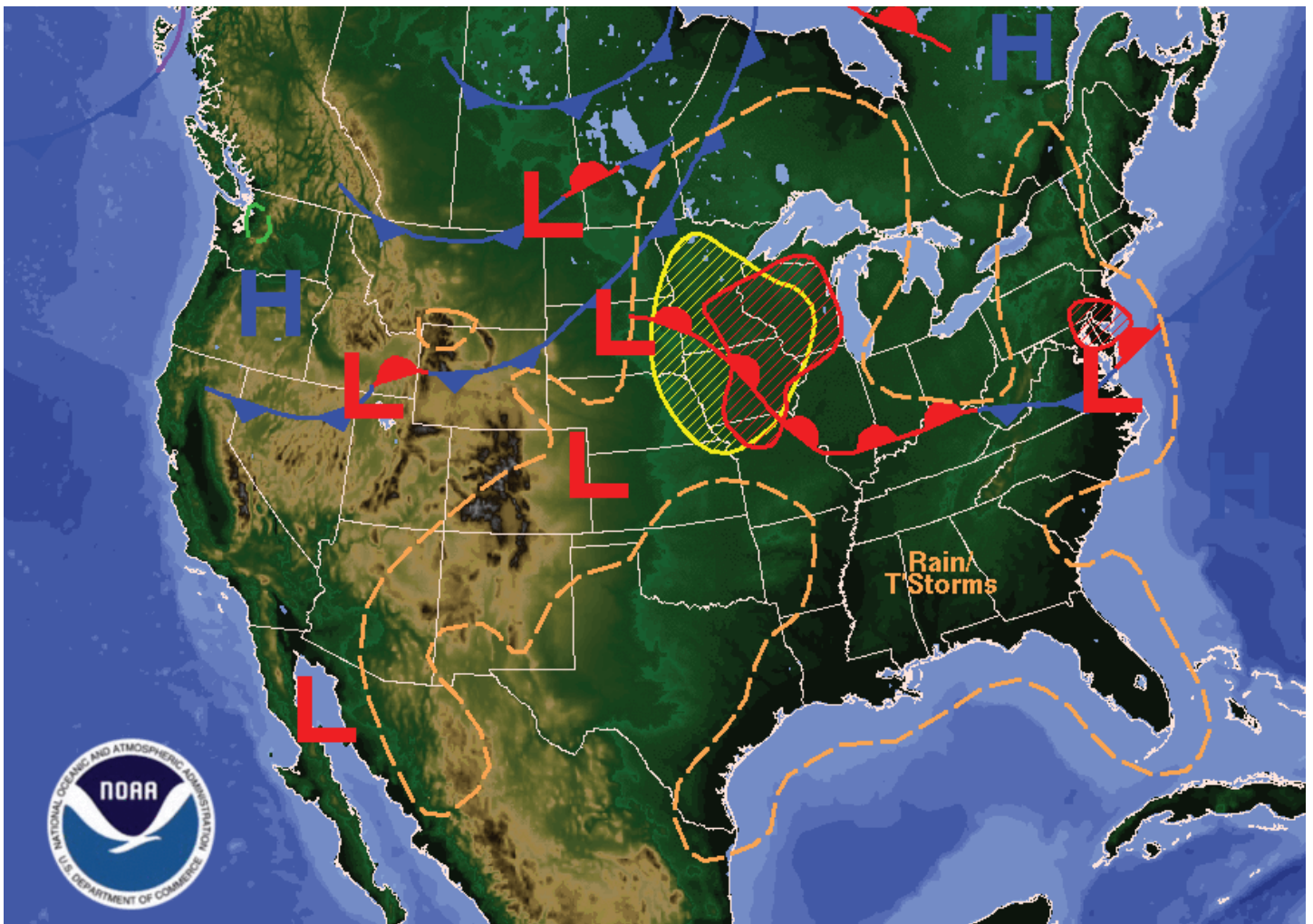
Precip to date in Aug: 1.37

Average Precip to date: 16.21

Precip Year to Date: 11.26

Sunset Tonight: 8:13 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:55 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Fri, Aug 31, 2018, issued 4:41 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 11 of 57



ASKING GOD FOR A FAVOR

Some time ago a clergyman shouted with all of his might, May God damn America! Standing behind his pulpit, with his colorful clerical robe and embroidered stole, his rant and rage shocked many who saw him on television.

The longer I watched and wondered, the more his words confused and disturbed me. I could not help but think about the impact this would have on those who were in his congregation or watching him on television or read his words in newspapers and magazines. Surely some would be as disturbed as I was. But, there would be others who would agree with him and cheer for him.

Most often when we and others call on God, it is for a favor or something we cannot do. It could be for healing, a financial need, a loved one who has wandered from God, or insight or wisdom. Then there are others who call on God because they want Him to use His power to do things that are destructive - like God, I hate America so much that I want You to use Your power to hurt the people I cant.

David spoke of them: They speak of You with evil intent; Your adversaries misuse Your name. We need to remind ourselves that God will only answer our prayers if our requests are consistent with His name or in keeping with His character. He is not available to hurt or harm His children or His creation or to satisfy our anger or do our dirty work or evil intentions.

God is always there, willing to hear our requests and answer them in the way that will bring honor and glory to Him. If we call on Him with evil intent, He will not hear us.

Prayer: Lord, grant us purity of heart and mind when we approach You in prayer. May our requests always honor You. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 139:20 - They speak of You with evil intent; Your adversaries misuse Your name.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 12 of 57

2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meat- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
- 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/4/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/27/2019 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
- 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/14/2019 Summer Fest
- 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party

- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 13 of 57

News from the  Associated Press

Thursday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Deuel, 25-11, 25-12, 25-16
Avon def. Andes Central/Dakota Christian, 25-16, 25-18, 15-25, 13-25, 15-10
Belle Fourche def. Custer, 25-15, 25-22, 25-16
Bridgewater-Emery def. Wessington Springs, 25-20, 25-15, 25-17
Brookings def. Brandon Valley, 25-18, 25-21, 25-23
Canistota def. Oldham-Ramona/Rutland, 25-13, 25-23, 25-13
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte def. Standing Rock, N.D., 25-7, 25-16, 25-16
Clark/Willow Lake def. Sioux Valley, 25-14, 25-16, 25-16
Colman-Egan def. DeSmet, 22-25, 25-15, 25-13, 25-15
Dell Rapids St. Mary def. Mitchell Christian, 25-20, 26-24, 25-18, 25-27
Deubrook def. Castlewood, 24-26, 25-22, 25-13, 25-22
Elk Point-Jefferson def. Dakota Valley, 25-19, 20-25, 25-19, 3-25, 16-14
Elkton-Lake Benton def. Lake Preston, 25-19, 25-8, 25-16
Ethan def. Sanborn Central/Woonsocket, 25-21, 25-19, 25-15
Faith def. McIntosh, 25-14, 25-11, 25-15
Freeman def. Howard, 25-18, 25-15, 25-23
Freeman Academy/Marion def. Menno, 25-20, 16-25, 25-20, 25-23
Garretson def. Baltic, 25-16, 25-19, 25-15
Gayville-Volin def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-21, 26-24, 26-24
Great Plains Lutheran def. Tri-State, N.D., 25-21, 24-26, 25-18, 19-25, 15-8
Groton Area def. Britton-Hecla, 25-15, 25-9, 25-13
Hamlin def. Flandreau, 25-23, 17-25, 25-20, 21-25, 15-12
Harding County def. Lemmon, 25-16, 25-20, 23-25, 25-22
Harrisburg def. Yankton, 25-13, 25-17, 25-17
Herreid/Selby Area def. McLaughlin, 25-14, 25-11, 25-15
Highmore-Harrold def. Lower Brule, 3-0
Hill City def. Red Cloud, 25-12, 25-17, 25-23
Hitchcock-Tulare def. James Valley Christian, 25-12, 25-22, 25-18
Ipswich def. Waubay/Summit, 21-25, 25-16, 25-16, 25-18
Kimball/White Lake def. Burke, 25-16, 25-21, 25-22
Lennox def. Tri-Valley, 22-25, 25-18, 25-18, 24-26, 15-11
McCook Central/Montrose def. Parker, 25-19, 24-26, 25-17, 23-25, 15-8
Milbank Area def. Webster, 25-22, 23-25, 25-18, 25-18
Miller def. Sully Buttes, 25-21, 25-13, 25-21
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-19, 25-15, 25-19
New Underwood def. White River, 25-7, 25-21, 25-13
Northwestern def. Langford, 25-9, 25-9, 25-10
Parkston def. Hanson, 25-22, 25-18, 20-25, 23-25, 15-8
Philip def. Kadoka Area, 21-25, 25-22, 23-25, 25-13, 15-10
Potter County def. Strasburg-Zeeland, N.D., 25-14, 25-19, 24-26, 25-18
Redfield/Doland def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 25-11, 25-16, 25-9
Scotland def. Viborg-Hurley, 11-25, 21-25, 25-21, 27-25, 15-12
Sioux Falls Christian def. Dell Rapids, 25-10, 21-25, 25-13, 25-12

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 14 of 57

Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Sioux Falls Lincoln, 3-1
Sioux Falls Washington def. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 25-10, 25-23, 25-22
Sisseton def. Wilmot, 19-25, 16-25, 25-19, 25-20, 15-11
South Sioux City, Neb. def. Vermillion, 25-21, 25-18, 25-19
Sturgis def. Douglas, 25-20, 25-21, 25-23
Timber Lake def. Bison, 25-20, 25-14, 25-27, 25-18
Wagner def. Chamberlain, 25-10, 25-9, 25-14
Warner def. Leola/Frederick, 25-8, 25-10, 25-6
Watertown def. Huron, 22-25, 25-22, 25-23, 25-20
Waverly-South Shore def. Florence/Henry, 25-10, 25-6, 25-6
West Central def. Bon Homme, 25-14, 25-19, 25-20
West Lyon, Inwood, Iowa def. Tea Area, 19-25, 25-27, 25-19, 25-22, 15-7
Ainsworth Triangular
Winner def. Ainsworth, Neb., 25-15, 25-11, 19-25, 25-14
Winner def. Valentine, Neb., 25-23, 25-11, 25-19

Iowa State opens Campbell's 3rd season vs. South Dakota St

By LUKE MEREDITH, AP Sports Writer

AMES, Iowa (AP) — For the first time in a while, Iowa State will enter an opener that it's expected to win with ease.

The Cyclones (8-5 in 2017), fresh off one of the best seasons in school history, host South Dakota State of the FCS on Saturday in the first game of rising coach Matt Campbell's third year in charge.

Yes, the Jackrabbits won a school-record 11 games in 2017 and are ranked third in their subdivision entering the season. But after losing to the likes of Northern Iowa and North Dakota State in home openers in recent seasons, Iowa State appears to have graduated from the days when a highly-ranked, lower-tier opponent produced real consternation in Ames.

Of course, that didn't stop Campbell from making the Jackrabbits sound like the Crimson Tide this week. "You look at them on film and you really watch the last two years of their product — and it's certainly been built over time — but it's a product that we hope we can get our program to. A sustained culture that's competing for championships," Campbell said.

Here are some of the points to consider as Iowa State get set for what it hopes is a tune-up for back-to-back games at Iowa and against Oklahoma.

KEMPT AND MONTGOMERY

Quarterback Kyle Kempt, an afterthought at best entering 2017, broke Iowa State's completion percentage mark at 66.3 a year ago and beat three ranked opponents in eight starts. But it's junior running back David Montgomery that SDSU should be most worried about. Montgomery had six games of at least 100 yards rushing with 36 receptions and 11 TDs last season — and he'll be running behind what should be a vastly-improved line. Iowa State lost some key pieces at wide receiver, but Hakeem Butler, Matt Eaton and Deshaunte Jones are both experienced and explosive.

JACKED UP

South Dakota State is one of just four FCS programs with at least six straight playoff appearances, and its current No. 3 ranking is the best in school history. Quarterback Taryn Christian was a preseason All-MVFC first-team pick after passing for 3,515 yards, running for 500 more and racking up 44 total touchdowns in 2017. The Jacks also return seven starters from a defense that allowed just 23.9 points a game a year ago.

ISU D

Only TCU gave up fewer points per game among Big 12 schools than Iowa State a year ago. The Cyclones could be even better in 2018, with the likes of defensive tackle Ray Lima, linebackers Marcel Spears and Willie Harvey and backs Brian Peavy and De'Andre Payne all back. Iowa State has a staggering six defensive players who earned all-league honors in 2017 set to start against the Jackrabbits.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 15 of 57

FACTS & FIGURES

The Cyclones lost three of their five games a year ago when the game was decided by the final play. "Our niche is, we have to win in the margins. We've got to be efficient in terms of situational football. We've got to do the little things really well," Campbell said. ... NFL kicker Adam Vinatieri's nephew, Chase, is SDSU's kicker — and he might be as good as his uncle someday. Chase was 13 of 14 on field goals last season, including a 55-yarder, and knocked home 58 extra points. ...Iowa State led the nation by losing just one fumble in 2017. ...The Jacks are coming off their first FCS semifinals appearance in school history.

HE SAID IT

"I'm the kind of guy that's like 'I'll hand the ball off on every play'...it's whatever is going to work for us during the game. We have a very deep running back room," Kempt said.

More AP college football: <https://apnews.com/tag/Collegefootball> and https://twitter.com/AP_Top25

Sioux Falls man convicted of careless driving in fatal crash

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A 53-year-old Sioux Falls man has been convicted of careless driving in a crash that killed a 19-year-old Sioux Falls woman.

Caitlyn Carman was stopped at an intersection to turn left when her SUV was rear-ended and pushed into the path of an oncoming semi last March. The University of South Dakota cheerleader died at the scene.

Mark Begeman was found guilty Thursday. He faces up to 30 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

The Argus Leader reports that Carman's family and friends wore tie-dyed "Caitlyn's Crew" shirts in court to show support for a woman they called a "truly kind, genuine, and loving soul."

Prosecutors said Begeman failed to exercise due caution before hitting Carman's vehicle. The defense said the state failed to meet its burden of proof.

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Haunting stories behind missing posters of Native women

By SHARON COHEN and MARY HUDETZ, Associated Press

Leona LeClair Kinsey was a fiercely independent woman who could go pheasant hunting, serve the bird for dinner, then take the leftover feathers and turn them into an artistic gift.

Her daughter, Carolyn DeFord, remembers how they'd also hunt deer, elk and antelope and pick mushrooms and huckleberries near their home in La Grande, Oregon, a rural community in the eastern corner of the state. "She was confident in her ability to not need people to do simple things for her," DeFord says, recalling how her mother would chop firewood and change her own tires.

Kinsey was 45 when she disappeared from La Grande in October 1999. DeFord believes her mother was likely a victim of foul play at the hands of a man she was supposed to meet who reportedly was a drug dealer. His whereabouts are unknown all these years later. Kinsey had struggled with alcohol and drugs.

A member of the Puyallup Tribe, Kinsey worked as a landscaper, a janitor and a motel housekeeper. She had a quirky sense of humor but also "a very dark and real concept of life," her daughter recalls. "She knew there were bad men," and when her mother was in her early 20s, she had a physically abusive relationship.

DeFord was 25 when her mother disappeared, and for nearly a decade, whenever she met someone new, she'd bring her mom up within minutes. "It was like I wore a nametag, 'Hi, my name is Carolyn. My mom is missing.'"

About 10 years ago, DeFord held a memorial for her mother, telling other mourners that "not a day goes by that I don't miss her." In recent years, she has become an activist in the missing and murdered Native American women movement, establishing a Facebook page featuring dozens of cases and reaching out to families to say: "I'm so sorry that you're on this journey. ... I know the chaos that you're in right now. If there's anything I can do to help, let me know."

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 16 of 57

She is still healing herself, but sharing her mother's story, DeFord says, has given her purpose and a chance to raise awareness.

"It's a way to be a voice for women who haven't found theirs yet."

Lakota Rae Renville was so shy as a teen that when she graduated high school she was reluctant to walk across the stage.

She was a straight-laced girl who didn't smoke cigarettes, drink or take drugs, says her sister, Waynette. But her life took a dramatic turn after she met a man online in 2003 and moved from South Dakota to the Kansas City area.

Lakota, a member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Tribe, told her sister that she had a boyfriend who had two jobs, so she didn't need to work. She kept secret most everything else about her life.

Two years later, just 22 years old, Lakota was murdered. Her badly bruised, naked body was wrapped in a carpet pad, rolled in a blanket and dumped in a gravel lot in Independence, Missouri. No one has been arrested.

Police say Lakota was a prostitute who worked in Kansas City, but Waynette believes her sister was a victim of sex trafficking — a growing concern among law enforcement and activists in Indian Country. "She had to be forced into that line of work," she says. "She would never, ever do that."

For five years, Waynette called the police every week, hoping a new tip or DNA would lead to Lakota's killer. She did not want her sister forgotten. "She was loved," Waynette says. "She had lots of friends and family."

In January 2017, she says, her sister's boyfriend contacted her and denied having anything to do with Lakota's death. Waynette has little hope now that the case will ever be solved.

Lakota was buried on the South Dakota reservation. Her headstone is engraved with an angel.

"We're just not the same anymore," Waynette says. "It's agonizing to not know who did that, why they did that."

At first, Waynette says she was angry with the world because of Lakota's murder. Now, she says, breaking into tears, she feels differently, believing that whoever killed her sister "will deal with this — either in this lifetime or the next."

Rita Papakee told her mother she loved her, then turned and walked into an Iowa casino. That was in January 2015. She hasn't been seen since.

Iris Roberts says her daughter, then 41, struggled with a drinking problem but would always call her when she went off with friends. But after she dropped her daughter off at the Meskwaki Bingo Casino in Tama, Iowa, there was nothing. Searchers scoured a wooded area and nearby towns. A private investigator was hired by the family.

Last May 5, the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls, the Meskwaki Tribe helped organize a "Bring Her Home" walk to raise money for a continued search.

"I think about her every day," her mother says. "I pray every night and I pray every morning that she's going to be found, wherever she's at. I know I have to take care of her kids. That's what keeps me going."

Papakee was a mother of four; her two sons and two daughters range from 11 to 25. She loved to bake — snickerdoodle cake was her specialty — and go all-out celebrating the holidays with her kids, searching for pumpkins at Halloween, planning New Year's parties for them. Since her disappearance, her oldest daughter has given birth to a son.

Roberts says her daughter had been in and out of treatment for her alcohol use and later got involved with a man who was using methamphetamines. She's heard all kinds of rumors, including the possibility she was a victim of sex trafficking. But she has no answers, despite a \$25,000 reward for information.

"It's terrible," Roberts says, "trying to live each day going on, but not knowing where she is and what happened to her."

The last time Tanya Begay spoke to her mother she had called early one morning in March 2017, saying

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 17 of 57

she planned to travel from the tiny Arizona town of Leupp back to her family's home near Gallup, New Mexico — a drive that should've taken just a few hours, from one part of the vast Navajo Nation to another.

A day earlier, Begay had made a stop near Tohatchi, New Mexico, to visit a relative's home with her boyfriend, marking the last time any of her relatives had seen her, according to a police report. Her mother reported her disappearance to officers in at least three different towns, including Gallup, where Begay had an apartment.

"At first, we were just like, 'OK, well she probably just went to Phoenix or somewhere like that,'" says Eliza Toddy, a longtime friend of Begay's. "She'll be back."

But a police report says Begay's mother believed she might be in danger.

The 37-year-old Navajo woman, whom Toddy described as "bubbly," has two children. She had been close to her parents, and liked to text or call family and friends frequently before she vanished, Toddy said.

Freda Knowshisgun's family on Montana's Crow Indian Reservation began to worry something truly terrible may have happened when an aunt passed away in the fall of 2016 and she didn't come home.

Knowshisgun, a mother of three, always had been known to be especially gifted and bright in her large, tightknit family, says her older sister, Frances. But for about a year before she vanished, she had started to come and go from her family's home, sometimes disappearing for days at a time, as she fell on tough times and hung around with "the wrong people," her sister says.

In November 2016, her mother reported her missing to police, but officers initially told the family there might be little they could do since Freda was an adult and there was no known crime, according to her sister.

"It seemed like they weren't helping at all because she jumped into the wrong crowd," Frances Knowshisgun says.

The FBI has since become involved in the search for Freda, but every day that she's gone, the anguish over where she might be and what may have happened to her weighs on her family.

"It sits on our chest and shoulders," her sister says.

Polygamous sect members keep control of town council

By BRADY McCOMBS, Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A polygamous sect that has been running a community on the Utah-Arizona border for more than a century has retained control of a town council after one incumbent kept his seat in Tuesday's primary and two others qualified for the November election.

The sect known as the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, or FLDS, has been hampered in recent years by government crackdowns and the imprisonment of its leader, Warren Jeffs, in Texas for sexually assaulting underage girls he considered brides.

The sister cities of Colorado City, Arizona, and Hildale, Utah, were also found guilty of civil rights violations and are being closely watched by court-appointed monitors.

Still, members of the sect held control Tuesday of the seven-member town council in Colorado City for at least two more years.

Councilman Donald Richter secured one of the four open seats and will skip the November election because he received more than 50 percent of the votes, said Vance Barlow, town clerk and town manager.

He will join three other FLDS members on the council who weren't up for reelection.

Two other incumbents, Joanne Shapley and Jeffery Jessop, received the second- and third-most votes Tuesday and move on to face four non-FLDS candidates as they vie for the remaining three spots in November.

The results were surprising after non-FLDS candidates took control of town offices in last year's election in Hildale.

"The results really speak to where Colorado City still is with their thinking and their mentality," said Terrill Musser, a 33-year-old former FLDS member who lives in the community and is working to get non-FLDS

candidates elected.

Musser noted that the effort by non-sect members to take control of the Hildale council initially failed in 2015 before breaking through in 2017.

"If we don't take back our cities and take control of this narrative, it will just go from generation to generation of unaccountable people to our state, our counties," Musser said

Amid heightened scrutiny of the sect by the state and federal governments, a Utah state judge several years ago ordered widespread evictions of sect families that lived in church properties that had been taken over by the state.

A number of those homes on the Utah side have been sold to former FLDS members such as Musser. Such sales have not yet begun in the Arizona town.

While many people are happy with the changes in Colorado City, sect members believe the town they built and love is being ripped from them.

Richter, an FLDS member, declined an interview request from The Associated Press but sent a video statement through a nonprofit group.

"I'm anxious to see the rights of everybody upheld," Richter said. "I don't feel there should be discrimination against anyone here."

#NotInvisible: Why are Native American women vanishing?

By SHARON COHEN, AP National Writer

VALIER, Mont. (AP) — The searchers rummage through the abandoned trailer, flipping over a battered couch, unfurling a stained sheet, looking for clues. It's blistering hot and a grizzly bear lurking in the brush unleashes a menacing growl. But they can't stop.

Not when a loved one is still missing.

The group moves outside into knee-deep weeds, checking out a rusted garbage can, an old washing machine — and a surprise: bones.

Ashley HeavyRunner Loring, a 20-year-old member of the Blackfeet Nation, was last heard from around June 8, 2017. Since then her older sister, Kimberly, has been looking for her.

She has logged about 40 searches, with family from afar sometimes using Google Earth to guide her around closed roads. She's hiked in mountains, shouting her sister's name. She's trekked through fields, gingerly stepping around snakes. She's trudged through snow, rain and mud, but she can't cover the entire 1.5 million-acre reservation, an expanse larger than Delaware.

"I'm the older sister. I need to do this," says 24-year-old Kimberly, swatting away bugs, her hair matted from the heat. "I don't want to search until I'm 80. But if I have to, I will."

Ashley's disappearance is one small chapter in the unsettling story of missing and murdered Native American women and girls. No one knows precisely how many there are because some cases go unreported, others aren't documented thoroughly and there isn't a specific government database tracking these cases. But one U.S. senator with victims in her home state calls this an epidemic, a long-standing problem linked to inadequate resources, outright indifference and a confusing jurisdictional maze.

Now, in the era of #MeToo, this issue is gaining political traction as an expanding activist movement focuses on Native women, a population known to experience some of the nation's highest rates of murder, sexual violence and domestic abuse.

"Just the fact we're making policymakers acknowledge this is an issue that requires government response, that's progress in itself," says Annita Lucchesi, a cartographer and member of the Southern Cheyenne Tribe who is building a database of missing and murdered indigenous women in the U.S. and Canada — a list of some 2,700 names so far.

As her endless hunt goes on, Ashley's sister is joined on this day by a cousin, Lissa, and four others, including a family friend armed with a rifle and pistols. They scour the trailer where two "no trespassing" signs are posted and a broken telescope looks out the kitchen window. One of Ashley's cousins lived here, and there are reports it's among the last places she was seen.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 19 of 57

"We're following every rumor there is, even if it sounds ridiculous," Lissa Loring says.

This search is motivated, in part, by the family's disappointment with the reservation police force — a common sentiment for many relatives of missing Native Americans.

Outside, the group stumbles upon something intriguing: the bones, one small and straight, the other larger and shaped like a saddle. It's enough to alert police, who respond in five squad cars, rumbling across the ragged field, kicking up clouds of dust. After studying the bones, one officer breaks the news: They're much too large for a human; they could belong to a deer.

There will be no breakthrough today. Tomorrow the searchers head to the mountains.

For many in Native American communities across the nation, the problem of missing and murdered women is deeply personal.

"I can't think of a single person that I know ... who doesn't have some sort of experience," says Ivan MacDonald, a member of the Blackfeet Nation and a filmmaker. "These women aren't just statistics. These are grandma, these are mom. This is an aunt, this is a daughter. This is someone who was loved ... and didn't get the justice that they so desperately needed."

MacDonald and his sister, Ivy, recently produced a documentary on Native American women in Montana who vanished or were killed. One story hits particularly close to home. Their 7-year-old cousin, Monica, disappeared from a reservation school in 1979. Her body was found frozen on a mountain 20 miles away. No one has ever been arrested.

There are many similar mysteries that follow a pattern: A woman or girl goes missing, there's a community outcry, a search is launched, a reward may be offered. There may be a quick resolution. But often, there's frustration with tribal police and federal authorities, and a feeling many cases aren't handled urgently or thoroughly.

So why does this happen? MacDonald offers his own harsh assessment.

"It boils down to racism," he argues. "You could sort of tie it into poverty or drug use or some of those factors ... (but) the federal government doesn't really give a crap at the end of the day."

Tribal police and investigators from the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs serve as law enforcement on reservations, which are sovereign nations. But the FBI investigates certain offenses and, if there's ample evidence, the U.S. Department of Justice prosecutes major felonies such as murder, kidnapping and rape if they happen on tribal lands.

Former North Dakota federal prosecutor Tim Purdon calls it a "jurisdictional thicket" of overlapping authority and different laws depending on the crime, where it occurred (on a reservation or not) and whether a tribal member is the victim or perpetrator. Missing person cases on reservations can be especially tricky. Some people run away, but if a crime is suspected, it's difficult to know how to get help.

"Where do I go to file a missing person's report?" Purdon asks. "Do I go to the tribal police? ... In some places they're underfunded and undertrained. The Bureau of Indian Affairs? The FBI? They might want to help, but a missing person case without more is not a crime, so they may not be able to open an investigation. ... Do I go to one of the county sheriffs? ... If that sounds like a horribly complicated mishmash of law enforcement jurisdictions that would tremendously complicate how I would try to find help, it's because that's what it is."

Sarah Deer, a University of Kansas professor, author of a book on sexual violence in Indian Country and member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, offers another explanation for the missing and murdered: Native women, she says, have long been considered invisible and disposable in society, and those vulnerabilities attract predators.

"It's made us more of a target, particularly for the women who have addiction issues, PTSD and other kinds of maladies," she says. "You have a very marginalized group, and the legal system doesn't seem to take proactive attempts to protect Native women in some cases."

Those attitudes permeate reservations where tribal police are frequently stretched thin and lack training and families complain officers don't take reports of missing women seriously, delaying searches in the

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 20 of 57

first critical hours.

"They almost shame the people that are reporting, (and say), 'Well, she's out drinking. Well, she probably took up with some man,'" says Carmen O'Leary, director of the Native Women's Society of the Great Plains. "A lot of times families internalize that kind of shame, (thinking) that it's her fault somehow."

The result: Some families spearhead their own investigations.

Matthew Lone Bear spent nine months looking for his older sister, Olivia — using drones and four-wheelers, fending off snakes and crisscrossing nearly a million acres, often on foot. The 32-year-old mother of five had last been seen driving a Chevy Silverado on Oct. 25, 2017, in downtown New Town, on the oil-rich terrain of North Dakota's Fort Berthold Reservation.

On July 31, volunteers using sonar found the truck with Olivia inside submerged in a lake less than a mile from her home. It's a body of water that had been searched before, her brother says, but "obviously not as thoroughly, or they would have found it a long time ago."

Lone Bear says authorities were slow in launching their search — it took days to get underway — and didn't get boats in the water until December, despite his frequent pleas. He's working to develop a protocol for missing person cases for North Dakota's tribes "that gets the red tape and bureaucracy out of the way," he says.

The FBI is investigating Olivia's death. "She's home," her brother adds, "but how did she get there? We don't have any of those answers."

Other families have been waiting for decades.

Carolyn DeFord's mother, Leona LeClair Kinsey, a member of the Puyallup Tribe, vanished nearly 20 years ago in La Grande, Oregon. "There was no search party. There was no, 'Let's tear her house apart and find a clue,'" DeFord says. "I just felt hopeless and helpless." She ended up creating her own missing person's poster.

"There's no way to process the kind of loss that doesn't stop," says DeFord, who lives outside Tacoma, Washington. "Somebody asked me awhile back, 'What would you do if you found her? What would that mean?...' It would mean she can come home. She's a human being who deserves to be honored and have her children and her grandchildren get to remember her and celebrate her life."

It's another Native American woman whose name is attached to a federal bill aimed at addressing this issue. Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, 22, was murdered in 2017 while eight months pregnant. Her body was found in a river, wrapped in plastic and duct tape. A neighbor in Fargo, North Dakota, cut her baby girl from her womb. The child survived and lives with her father. The neighbor, who pleaded guilty, was sentenced to life without parole; her boyfriend's trial is set to start in September.

In a speech on the Senate floor last fall, North Dakota Democrat Heidi Heitkamp told the stories of four other Native American women from her state whose deaths were unsolved. Displaying a giant board featuring their photos, she decried disproportionate incidences of violence that go "unnoticed, unreported or underreported."

Her bill, "Savanna's Act," aims to improve tribal access to federal crime information databases. It would also require the Department of Justice to develop a protocol to respond to cases of missing and murdered Native Americans and the federal government to provide an annual report on the numbers.

At the end of 2017, Native Americans and Alaska Natives made up 1.8 percent of ongoing missing cases in the FBI's National Crime Information Center database, even though they represent 0.8 percent of the U.S. population. These cases include those lingering and open from year to year, but experts say the figure is low, given that many tribes don't have access to the database. Native women accounted for more than 0.7 percent of the missing cases — 633 in all — though they represent about 0.4 percent of the U.S. population.

"Violence against Native American women has not been prosecuted," Heitkamp said in an interview. "We have not really seen the urgency in closing cold cases. We haven't seen the urgency when someone goes missing. ... We don't have the clear lines of authority that need to be established to prevent these tragedies."

In August, Sen. Jon Tester, a Montana Democrat, asked the leaders of the Senate Committee on Indian

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 21 of 57

Affairs to hold a hearing to address the problem.

Lawmakers in a handful of states also are responding. In Montana, a legislative tribal relations committee has proposals for five bills to deal with missing persons. A 2017 analysis by Montana's Department of Justice found Native Americans account for 30 percent of missing girls and women — 22 of 72 — even though they represent only 3.3 percent of the state's population.

It's one of many statistics that reveal a grim reality.

On some reservations, Native American women are murdered at a rate more than 10 times the national average and more than half of Alaska Native and Native women have experienced sexual violence at some point, according to the U.S. Justice Department. A 2016 study found more than 80 percent of Native women experience violence in their lifetimes.

Yet another federal report on violence against women included some startling anecdotes from tribal leaders. Sadie Young Bird, who heads victim services for the Three Affiliated Tribes at Fort Berthold, described how in 1½ years, her program had dealt with five cases of murdered or missing women, resulting in 18 children losing their mothers; two cases were due to intimate partner violence.

"Our people go missing at an alarming rate, and we would not hear about many of these cases without Facebook," she said in the report.

Canada has been wrestling with this issue for decades and recently extended a government inquiry that began in 2016 into missing and murdered indigenous women. A report by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police concluded that from 1980 to 2012 there were 1,181 indigenous women murdered or whose missing person cases were unresolved. Lucchesi, the researcher, says she found an additional 400 to 500 cases in her database work.

Despite some high-profile cases in the U.S., many more get scant attention, Lucchesi adds.

"Ashley has been the face of this movement," she says. "But this movement started before Ashley was born. For every Ashley, there are 200 more."

Browning is the heart of the Blackfeet Nation, a distinctly Western town with calf-roping competitions, the occasional horseback rider ambling down the street — and a hardscrabble reality. Nearly 40 percent of the residents live in poverty. The down-and-out loiter on corners. Shuttered homes with "Meth Unit" scrawled on wooden boards convey the damage caused by drugs.

With just about 1,000 residents, many folks are related and secrets have a way of spilling out.

"There's always somebody talking," says Ashley's cousin, Lissa, "and it seems like to us since she disappeared, everybody got quiet. I don't know if they're scared, but so are we. That's why we need people to speak up."

Missing posters of Ashley are displayed in grocery stores and the occasional sandwich shop. They show a fresh-faced, grinning woman, flashing the peace sign. In one, she gazes into the camera, her long hair blowing in the wind.

One of nine children, including half-siblings, Ashley had lived with her grandmother outside town. Kimberly remembers her sister as funny and feisty, the keeper of the family photo albums who always carried a camera. She learned to ride a horse before a bike and liked to whip up breakfasts of biscuits and gravy that could feed an army.

She was interested in environmental science and was completing her studies at Blackfeet Community College, with plans to attend the University of Montana.

Kimberly says Ashley contacted her asking for money. Days later, she was gone.

At first, her relatives say, tribal police suggested Ashley was old enough to take off on her own. The Bureau of Indian Affairs investigated, teaming up with reservation police, and interviewed 55 people and conducted 38 searches. There are persons of interest, spokeswoman Nedra Darling says, but she wouldn't elaborate. A \$10,000 reward is being offered.

The FBI took over the case in January after a lead steered investigators off the reservation and into another state. The agency declined comment.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 22 of 57

Ashley's disappearance is just the latest trauma for the Blackfeet Nation.

Theda New Breast, a founder of the Native Wellness Institute, has compiled a list of missing and murdered women in the Blackfoot Confederacy — four tribes in the U.S. and Canada. Long-forgotten names are added as families break generations of silence. A few months ago, a woman revealed her grandmother had been killed in the 1950s by her husband and left in a shallow grave.

"Everybody knew about it, but nobody talked about it," New Breast says, and others keep coming forward — perhaps, in part, because of the #MeToo movement. "Every time I bring out the list, more women tell their secret. I think that they find their voice."

Though these crimes have shaken the community, "there is a tendency to be desensitized to violence," says MacDonald, the filmmaker. "I wouldn't call it avoidance. But if we would feel the full emotions, there would be people crying in the streets."

His aunt, Mabel Wells, would be among them.

Nearly 40 years have passed since that December day when her daughter, Monica, vanished. Wells remembers every terrible moment: The police handing her Monica's boot after it was found by a hunter and the silent scream in her head: "It's hers! It's hers!" Her brother describing the little girl's coat flapping in the wind after her daughter's body was found frozen on a mountain. The pastor's large hands that held hers as he solemnly declared: "Monica's with the Lord."

Monica's father, Kenny Still Smoking, recalls that a medicine man told him his daughter's abductor was a man who favored Western-style clothes and lived in a red house in a nearby town, but there was no practical way to pursue that suggestion.

He recently visited Monica's grave, kneeling next to a white cross peeking out from tall grass, studying his daughter's smiling photo, cracked with age. He gently placed his palm on her name etched into a headstone. "I let her know that I'm still kicking," he says.

Wells visits the gravesite, too — every June 2, Monica's birthday. She still hopes to see the perpetrator caught. "I want to sit with them and say, 'Why? Why did you choose my daughter?'"

Even now, she can't help but think of Monica alone on that mountain. "I wonder if she was hollering for me, saying, 'Mom, help!'"

Ash-lee! Ash-lee!! Ash-lee! Ash-lee!!

Some 20 miles northwest of Browning, the searchers have navigated a rugged road lined with barren trees scorched from an old forest fire. They have a panoramic view of majestic snowcapped mountains. A woman's stained sweater was found here months ago, making the location worthy of another search. It's not known whether the garment may be Ashley's.

First Kimberly, then Lissa Loring, call Ashley's name — in different directions. The repetition four times by each woman is a ritual designed to beckon someone's spirit.

Lissa says Ashley's disappearance constantly weighs on her. "All that plays in my head is where do we look? Who's going to tell us the next lead?"

That weekend at the annual North American Indian Days in Browning, the family marched in a parade with a red banner honoring missing and murdered indigenous women. They wore T-shirts with an image of Ashley and the words: "We will never give up."

Then Ashley's grandmother and others took to a small arena for what's known as a blanket dance, to raise money for the search. As drums throbbed, they grasped the edges of a blue blanket. Friends stepped forward, dropping in cash, some tearfully embracing Ashley's relatives.

The past few days reminded Kimberly of a promise she'd made to Ashley when their mother was wrestling with substance abuse problems and the girls were briefly in a foster home. Kimberly was 8 then; Ashley was just 5.

"We have to stick together," she'd told her little sister.

"I told her I would never leave her. And if she was going to go anywhere, I would find her."

Photographer David Goldman and data journalist Angeliki Kastanis contributed to this report. Sharon

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 23 of 57

Cohen, a Chicago-based national writer, can be reached at scohen@ap.org or on Twitter @scohenAP.

Men face drug charges after marijuana allegedly found in car

KENNEBEC, S.D. (AP) — Two Washington state men face drug charges after South Dakota authorities allegedly discovered over 10 pounds of marijuana in their car.

The Daily Republic reports authorities pulled over a car traveling on Interstate 90 driven by 22-year-old Yiel Woul. He was reportedly driving 2 mph over the speed limit, and a Highway Patrol officer allegedly noticed a strong smell of air freshener while the car was pulled over on Aug. 14.

Woul said he and 37-year-old passenger Joshua McLean were traveling to see McLean's family. Woul refused a search of the vehicle, but a police dog allegedly indicated drugs were inside.

The officer allegedly found 10 bags of marijuana, each weighing about one pound, and three THC oil cartridges. Lawyers for McLean and Woul declined to comment.

Information from: The Daily Republic, <http://www.mitchellrepublic.com>

Trump headed to South Dakota for Kristi Noem fundraiser

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — President Donald Trump is headed to South Dakota's biggest city for a fundraiser for Republican governor candidate Kristi Noem.

An invitation to the event obtained by the Argus Leader shows Trump's visit to South Dakota will be Sept. 7 in Sioux Falls. Noem, the state's lone U.S. representative, faces Democratic state Sen. Billie Sutton and Libertarian Kurt Evans in the November general election.

Noem has touted her role negotiating the GOP's federal tax cuts with Trump and has praised his administration's regulatory rollbacks. Trump triumphed in South Dakota by a large margin in 2016.

A \$5,000-per-couple donation to support Noem will allow contributors to attend the event and remarks and get a photo with Trump. A \$500 donation per person gives access to the event without a photo.

Despite past reforms, Native women face high rates of crime

By MARY HUDETZ, Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — For generations, Native American women have been victimized at astonishing rates, with federal figures showing that more than half have encountered sexual and domestic violence at some point during their lives — even amid a wave of efforts aimed at reducing such crimes.

The statistics reinforce arguments that the criminal justice system still fails to protect these women, and its shortcomings again are being exposed as another crisis gains attention: the disappearances of hundreds of Native American and Alaska Native women and girls from across the United States.

In the past decade, Congress responded to the problem of violence against Native American women with intensely debated legislation seeking to close legal loopholes, improve data collection and increase funding for training of tribal police. Those efforts have proven severely limited, however, prompting advocates to again push for more reforms.

"I think the reason that Native women may go missing at higher rates than other groups of people is very similar to the reason that they are at higher risk for domestic violence and sexual assault," said Sarah Deer, a University of Kansas professor, member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and author of a book on sexual violence in Indian Country. "The legal system is simply not functioning properly (to prevent) these types of things from happening."

At the end of 2017, the FBI's National Crime Information Center database had 633 open missing person cases for Native American women, who comprise 0.4 percent of the U.S. population but 0.7 percent of cases in the figures obtained by The Associated Press. African-American women were the only other group to be overrepresented in the caseload compared to their proportion of the population. The numbers are considered an undercount, however, given reporting is largely voluntary and some tribes only gained full

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 24 of 57

access to the database under a Justice Department program launched in 2015.

Just 47 of the nation's more than 570 federally recognized tribes are part of DOJ's Tribal Access Program , which allows them to exchange data with national crime information systems for civil and criminal purposes. The Justice Department has gradually allocated funding to bring more tribes on board, and up to 25 are expected to join the program in the next year, officials said. Other tribes have limited access via state, federal or local law enforcement agencies.

"We think that's an important way of ensuring that tribes have the ability to directly deal with the issues on the ground that their families and their community are dealing with," said Tracy Toulou, director of the Justice Department's Office of Tribal Justice.

That program was one of many crime-fighting measures in the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 , which gave tribes authority to hand down longer sentences while mandating that federal officials do more to train tribal police on evidence collection and provide an annual report on Indian Country crime statistics.

Years later, those data collection and reporting efforts are still in development, funding for law enforcement training remains limited, and the Justice Department's assistance with public safety on reservations — a role referenced in multiple treaties with tribes — has fallen short of officials' expressed commitment to Indian Country, according to the Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General.

In a 2017 report , the Inspector General also highlighted U.S. attorneys' uneven track record with prosecuting serious violent crimes on reservations, citing data that must be collected under the 2010 law to help improve those prosecution rates.

Before the law, the U.S. Government Accountability Office found , U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute half of cases on reservations, leading to concerns that the practice was creating a safe haven for criminals on tribal lands. The latest figures from 2016 show U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute 46 percent of reservation cases, marking only marginal improvement. That included rejecting more than 550 assault and sexual assault cases — more than any other type of crime. (Domestic violence cases typically fall under assault.) Prosecutors blamed the vast majority of rejections on insufficient evidence.

A few weeks ago, at an annual meeting between tribal and federal officials about violence against Native women, Jesse Panuccio, the Justice Department's acting associate attorney general, identified domestic violence and sex trafficking as two underlying issues that may be linked to disappearances of women in Indian Country. He said improving law enforcement's response to those crimes could help.

"Many tribal leaders have testified that the disappearance and deaths of American Indian and Alaska Native women are not taken seriously enough, and that increased awareness and a stronger law enforcement response are critical to saving Native women's lives," Panuccio said.

Some tribal leaders and victims' families contend authorities too often are unwilling to help search for missing loved ones or even file a report.

In Alaska, state authorities — who handle criminal investigations in more than 200 Alaska Native villages — have been accused of classifying fatalities as suicides when families feel certain their loved ones died from a homicide, according to representatives from the Akiak, Emmonak and Tetlin communities. The state, which has the highest percentage of Native residents in the U.S., also has some of the biggest crime disparities in the nation, including the highest rate of women murdered by men.

A 2013 report found that at least 75 Alaska Native communities had no law enforcement presence, and Alaska Native officials spoke candidly in a federal report last year about barriers victims face in seeking justice. Some victims needing a sexual assault forensic exam must take a boat or plane to an urban area, according to Michelle Demmert, chief justice for the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes.

As a result of complaints over police response nationwide, proposals have begun to emerge to address how officers respond, with calls for the Justice Department to establish standardized protocols.

One of those proposals, included in draft legislation to renew and broaden the Violence Against Women Act, would expand tribal jurisdiction over a range of crimes. For example, tribal police would be able to arrest non-Native Americans suspected of selling women for sex or running trafficking rings.

An earlier version of the Violence Against Women Act gave tribal authorities the ability to prosecute non-Indians in domestic violence cases. However, only 18 tribes have met the mandates to do so, the National

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 25 of 57

Congress of American Indians reported in March. Those mandates include requiring tribes to provide an attorney to suspects who cannot afford one — a costly ask for cash-strapped nations.

"We can't guarantee that because we don't have the funding to guarantee it," said Robert LaFountain, a prosecutor on Montana's Crow Reservation, where the per capita annual income of roughly \$15,000 is about half the national average. "The funding is always difficult."

Another measure included in the VAWA reauthorization calls for annual reports on the number of missing and murdered Native Americans, one of multiple federal proposals aimed at measuring the full scope of the problem.

The Violence Against Women Act expires this fall, and prospects for passing any new changes are uncertain. There are no Republicans co-sponsors, and the U.S. Justice Department has not signaled its support for amendments. As a senator, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions opposed the legislation in 2013 over his objection to expanding tribes' authority over non-Indians and other provisions.

Contributing to this story were AP data journalist Angeliki Kastanis in Los Angeles and photographer Sue Ogrocki from Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press

Rapid City Journal, Rapid City, Aug. 30

Task force get results with gun theft arrests

It's no secret that methamphetamine has become a major threat to public safety in South Dakota. Its addictive qualities are severe and the consequences ripple through communities in untoward and dangerous ways.

And, now, law enforcement has identified a nexus between meth and the illegal gun trade that poses another threat to public safety.

On Tuesday, Project Safe Neighborhood Task Force members U.S. Attorney Ron Parsons, Attorney General Marty Jackley, Pennington County State's Attorney Mark Vargo, Pennington County Sheriff Kevin Thom, Rapid City Police Chief Karl Jegeris and Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms, Tobacco and Explosives officers held a press conference in Rapid City to publicize what they have uncovered since January.

It was startling.

Parsons reported that more than 200 firearms used in crimes, held illegally or with serial numbers removed have been seized in Rapid City since the first of the year. In addition, the U.S. Attorney's Office has indicted more than 40 people for drug crimes; numerous others have been charged by the state.

The task force, which was resurrected by Attorney General Jeff Sessions, sees a clear and troubling relationship between the two trends.

"The rise of meth and drug trafficking is a clear and present danger to our children, families and citizens," Parsons said. "At the same time, gun crimes and other violence are on the rise as well. This is not a coincidence."

Jegeris said a recent homicide that led to the arrests of two teenagers and an aggravated assault in Founder's Park are just the most recent examples of an all-too-familiar crime scenario.

"In the last several years, we've had a normalization of meth," he said. "And it affects Rapid City, our tribal neighbors and results in increased violence."

The task force is pooling resources to focus on the activities of a world that is unknown to most people until they learn about what happened at The Rooster sporting goods store in Rapid City, which has been targeted by gun thieves twice in three years.

In April 2016, 25 handguns were stolen from the store. Two were recovered from a homicide suspect and another from a man who was killed in an officer-related shooting. No arrests have been made in the burglary case.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 26 of 57

Then last week, 24 handguns were stolen in an overnight burglary there, but the results were vastly different. At Tuesday's press conference, the task force said its collaborative efforts led to the quick arrest of four suspects and the recovery of 22 of the stolen handguns. The suspects now face theft and drug charges that could take them off the streets for years.

The task force deserves credit for the quick action but more importantly for combining the resources of the various agencies to tackle a two-headed monster that poses a threat to all citizens.

American News, Aberdeen, Aug. 29

SD lags on immunizations, but 'vaccine hesitancy' is only one cause

According to an Aug. 20 BBC News and World Health Organization report, cases of measles in Europe have hit a record high in the first half of 2018 with more than 41,000 infected and 37 deaths. The widespread infection in Europe is largely due to people traveling to outbreak areas.

This report should get our attention in the United States.

It should pique interest in South Dakota, in particular, because this report comes right after a statewide conference presented data showing South Dakota slipping behind the national rate for early-childhood immunizations.

Our state fell far below the goal of 80 percent. This decline is a trend which now shows South Dakota and the nation at just above 70 percent.

This puts us at risk of an outbreak similar to the situation in Europe. The vaccination for measles (MMR) can prevent the infection if children are properly immunized starting around their first birthday. But, according to the data, about 30 percent of children in South Dakota are not protected.

At the conference, state epidemiologist Joshua Clayton suggested that a contributing factor for the decline is "hesitant parents." Conference speaker Dr. Barbara Pahud also focused her presentation on vaccine hesitancy. This hesitancy refers to a movement where parents choose not to vaccinate or to only partially vaccinate their children. Today, more and more parents are questioning whether the benefits of vaccinating outweigh the risks. This argument is quite polarized with a majority of the medical community claiming vaccinations pose little risk versus a vocal section of the parenting community that views the increased vaccination schedule as intrusive, unnatural, unnecessary and/or dangerous.

The South Dakota conference focused on providing information to health providers to foster an acceptance of vaccination among this sector of caregivers. For hesitant yet involved parents, this seems like a smart move to help increase the percentage of vaccinated children.

However, it also assumes that vaccine hesitancy is the only factor in the downward trend. We find that hard to believe given our culture and communities here in South Dakota. There are certainly other aspects that we should be exploring to increase our rate.

First, do all parents understand the vigorous immunization schedule that the medical community advises? This includes well-check visits at birth, one month, two months, four months, six months, nine months, 1 year, 1.5 year and every year until the child reaches school age. That's a lot of visits. For busy, working parents and grandparents, this can be time consuming and daunting. Parents care about their children's health, but our lives can often be overwhelming and hectic. Missing one of these vaccination visits may often be out of absentmindedness or necessity rather than based on a position against vaccinations.

Moreover, vaccinating can be expensive. While most health insurance, presuming you have it, will cover vaccinations, parents are still required to foot the bill for copays and other administration fees. Parents who are uninsured or under-insured do have the option to apply for Medicaid assistance, but, again, parents are required to jump through all sorts of hoops. Just looking online to get information about free vaccines can be discouraging and unclear. If you do get government assistance, parents still may have to cover administration fees and time-off work.

At the recent conference, the state seemed focused on convincing hesitant, involved parents. That's great. But, this can't be the only reason our state is under-vaccinated. Let's not forget about this other important sector of our parenting population. Caregivers who may not have knowledge, support, funds,

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 27 of 57

or reasonable access to vaccinations should be receiving equal focus if we really want to reverse this downward trend and keep our communities healthy.

The Daily Republic, Mitchell, Aug. 29

Keep pheasant increase in perspective; we still need habitat

So South Dakota's pheasant population is up. Now what?

More nonresidents will read the state's preseason report and make the trek to our state to buy gasoline, stay in hotels and spend their tourism dollars in our communities.

A huge win, right? At least for this year, sure.

It's no secret the number of hunters who visit South Dakota and the number of small game licenses sold are tied to the preseason pheasant report, which was released Monday and showed a 47 percent increase from 2017's count.

But relying on prime weather conditions for an optimal bird hatch each year is too risky if we want South Dakota to remain the nation's top pheasant destination. Despite a little flooding in some areas of the state, we've had outstanding weather conditions this year to help spark a much-needed bounceback year for pheasants. Timely rains and cooler temperatures have been perfect.

Anyone living here knows drought can strike anytime — excessive heat in the summer and massive spring snowfall are not abnormal. The only remedy for pheasants during tough weather periods is habitat. That's no secret.

Even Gov. Dennis Daugaard stood before a large audience in 2013 during a summit in Huron and said weather and habitat will impact the state bird the most. While some success has come from that gathering in terms of aiding the state's habitat, South Dakota has still lost more than a half-million acres of CRP land in the past decade.

It's unreasonable for the burden of maintaining a good pheasant population here to fall on farmers. They have enough to worry about running their own business each and every day.

That's why it's important to point out the good work being done by nonprofit organizations such as Pheasants Forever and the United States Department of Agriculture to give farmers and landowners options to be paid to put ground into habitat.

We recognize agriculture is the state's most important influence to its economy, and for pheasants and wildlife to thrive we need agriculture's help. And we hope that's the mindset for all hunters — we need to appreciate the farmers who don't plant every acre; thank those people and support them.

A good example is the community-based habitat access program, an effort led by Pheasants Forever. The initiative, in short, allows individuals and businesses to gather money for land to put into public hunting. The funds go to landowners to further incentivize habitat.

Aberdeen started this project in South Dakota. Mitchell followed suit, and now rural areas like Chamberlain have joined.

So while we celebrate a strong report of a good pheasant hunting season on the horizon, we need to remember this population influx is mainly due to optimal weather conditions. We can't control Mother Nature.

The only way as South Dakotans — both agriculture producers and outdoor enthusiasts — to positively influence pheasants is to work together and keep putting more habitat on the ground.

Pine Ridge man sentenced to 4 years for arson

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) — A Pine Ridge man has been sentenced to 4 years in federal prison for burning down a house on the reservation.

The U.S. Attorney's Office says 43-year-old Britton George Kills Right was also ordered to spend two years on supervised release following his conviction this week on arson charges.

The Rapid City Journal reports prosecutors say Kills Rights intentionally started a fire that destroyed another person's house in Pine Ridge last February.

Information from: Rapid City Journal, <http://www.rapidcityjournal.com>

Governor submits bills for online sales tax special session

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard on Thursday submitted two bills for consideration during the upcoming special legislative session that would help implement a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling allowing states to force online shoppers to pay sales tax.

The Republican governor said in a statement that the bills would let the state benefit from the “national tax fairness victory that we led.” The special session starts Sept. 12.

It was a South Dakota case that led to the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in June to overturn two decades-old high court decisions that have made it tougher for states to collect sales taxes for certain purchases online. South Dakota estimated that it loses about \$50 million per year to e-commerce.

One special session measure would allow the state to start collecting sales taxes from many out-of-state internet retailers on Nov. 1. South Dakota currently can’t collect such taxes because of an injunction in place under state law that would be lifted under the proposal, with the companies involved in the state’s case exempted as court proceedings continue.

The sales tax obligation applies to sellers outside the state who do more than \$100,000 of business in South Dakota or more than 200 transactions annually with state residents under a law passed in 2016. A second bill would require marketplaces such as eBay to collect sales taxes for sellers on their platforms if the marketplace handles payments.

House Majority Leader Lee Qualm said he anticipates the proposals will pass, though changes could be made.

“I think it’ll be received pretty good,” Qualm said. “It gives us the ability to start collecting the tax.”

Lawmakers are also set to debate an unrelated third bill on the timing of the new governor’s inauguration in January. The state’s last special legislative session was held in 2017 to create rules governing the use of lakes on private land for recreation.

Security increased at Sioux Falls school following threat

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Security has been increased at Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls following an email threat that police believe is a hoax.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens says the email which threatened a shooting is similar to other email hoaxes that have been received across the country.

Clemens says extra officers are stationed at Roosevelt Thursday where school started last week. It’s the second time the district has heightened security in a week. The first involved a custodian who hid a loaded gun at another campus.

Sioux Falls businessman convicted in tax fraud scheme

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A federal jury has convicted a Sioux Falls businessman accused in what authorities labeled a massive tax fraud scheme.

The U.S. attorney’s office says 37-year-old Jacques Eviglo filed hundreds of fraudulent federal tax returns while doing business as Global Income Tax Services, to increase refund amounts for unsuspecting clients. He then skimmed money from the returns, accumulating more than \$800,000 over four years.

A jury convicted Eviglo of 30 total counts of making false claims and wire fraud after a five-day trial. He’s to be sentenced Nov. 26.

4th suspect charged in theft of guns from Rapid City store

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A fourth suspect has been charged in the theft of 24 guns from a Rapid City sporting goods store.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 29 of 57

The Rapid City Journal reports that 31-year-old Hank Dubray, of Rapid City, faces a felony count of receiving stolen property. It wasn't immediately clear if he had an attorney.

Police say Dubray was arrested after a traffic stop on Aug. 23 during which officers found guns in the vehicle, some with altered serial numbers.

The burglary at The Rooster store happened Aug. 22. Law officers have recovered most of the stolen guns.

Information from: Rapid City Journal, <http://www.rapidcityjournal.com>

South Dakota's spring wheat harvest is wrapping up

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's spring wheat harvest is wrapping up, and the corn crop is starting to mature.

The federal Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that 97 percent of the spring wheat is harvested, and 3 percent of the corn crop is mature.

Development of the soybean crop in the state also remains ahead of the average pace.

Soil moisture supplies are stable over the week. Topsoil moisture is rated 61 percent adequate to surplus, with 59 percent of subsoil moisture in those categories.

Pasture and range conditions statewide remain mostly rated fair or good.

Aretha Franklin's funeral to fuse spirit with star power

By JEFF KAROUB, Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Organizers of Aretha Franklin's funeral insist it will be a service, not a show. Yet the Queen of Soul's final send-off on Friday certainly will encompass many elements, emotions and grand entrances that were hallmarks of her more than six decades on sacred and secular stages.

And it boasts a lineup of speakers and singers that would rival any of the hottest revues, past or present.

To be sure, the funeral at Detroit's Greater Grace Temple, which caps off a week of events that included high-profile public viewings and tribute concerts, comes with all-star speakers and performers. Among those offering words will be former President Bill Clinton, the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Smokey Robinson. Songs will be provided by Steve Wonder, Ariana Grande, Jennifer Hudson, Fantasia, Faith Hill, Shirley Caesar, Chaka Khan and more.

The street outside Greater Grace will be lined with pink Cadillacs — a nod to Franklin's funky '80s tune, "Freeway of Love," which prominently featured the car in the lyrics and video. Her casket has been carried this week by a 1940 Cadillac LaSalle hearse that also took Franklin's father, legendary minister C.L. Franklin, and civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks to their final resting places at Woodlawn Cemetery, where the singer will join them.

Bishop Charles Ellis III of Greater Grace knows well of the boldface guest list and surrounding pomp and circumstance, but he has a higher mission in mind for the service that may well exceed five hours.

"It is my goal and my aim to ensure that people leave here with some kind of spiritual awakening," Ellis said. "This is not a concert, this is not a show, this is not an awards production. This is a real life that has been lived, that a person regardless of how famous she became no matter how many people she touched around the world, she still could not escape death. And hopefully, a lot of people here with money and fame and influence and friends and notoriety and wealth, hopefully they will think of their mortality and say there is something bigger than fame, there is something bigger than Hollywood, something bigger than being a recording artist and selling gold albums or what have you."

Of course, some get-down and lift-up need not be mutually exclusive.

"I really believe that this ... is going to be an eye-opening experience for everybody in the world watching," said gospel artist Marvin Sapp, also among the scheduled performers. "We really celebrate because we really recognize that those we call the dearly departed, they wouldn't want for us to cry and be sad

and sorrowful. But they would want us to celebrate their lives because they transitioned from this life to a better one."

Sapp wouldn't reveal what he will perform Friday, but said every song is one picked out by Franklin. Robinson also didn't share what he will say, but that's for a different reason.

"I do not plan anything (with) someone I love like that," Robinson, a Motown great who grew up with Franklin, told The Associated Press. "I love her. She was my longest friend."

Robinson said he will just make it "personal," since he remained close with Franklin until the end. He said they "talked all the time," the last just a couple weeks before she became too ill to speak.

"We saw all of our other close friends go," Robinson said. "We used to talk about that — we saw a lot of soldiers go."

Amid the sadness of these days, Robinson can find uplift — and believes Franklin's legacy is secure. A new generation of singers like Grande who are inspired by the late Queen of Soul is just the beginning.

"There are some girls who haven't been born yet ... who will be inspired by Aretha," he said.

Sabrina Owens, Franklin's niece, told the AP she started putting thoughts to paper about events earlier this year as her aunt's health failed. Since Franklin's Aug. 16 death at 76, Owens said a close group she described as "Aretha's angels" have "worked tirelessly" and have been guided by a single question: "What would Aretha want?"

"After all she gave to the world, I felt we needed to give her an appropriate send-off that would match her legacy," Owens said.

Associated Press writers Josh Replogle and Kristin M. Hall contributed to this report.

Follow Jeff Karoub on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/jeffkaroub> and find more of his work at <https://apnews.com/search/jeff%20karoub> .

For more, visit <https://apnews.com/tag/ArethaFranklin> .

New York attorney general: No backing down on Trump lawsuit

By TOM McELROY, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Lawyers for President Donald Trump asked a judge to dismiss a lawsuit brought against his charitable foundation by New York's attorney general, arguing that it was politically motivated.

In the motion Thursday, Trump attorney Alan S. Futerfas argued that former New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman "made it his stated mission to 'lead the resistance' and attack Mr. Trump whenever possible" and "used his public antipathy for Mr. Trump to solicit donations for his own re-election campaign and advance his career interests and aspirations."

Trump very publicly announced his intention to dissolve the foundation and donate all of its remaining funds to charity, but the AG "actively stonewalled dissolution," Futerfas wrote.

"At the same time, the NYAG turned a blind eye to serious and significant allegations of misconduct involving the Clinton Foundation, including claims that it, and its subsidiaries, violated New York law by failing to disclose \$225 million in donations from foreign governments," Futerfas wrote.

Schneiderman began investigating the Trump Foundation in 2016 following Washington Post reports that its spending personally benefited the presidential candidate. Schneiderman ordered the foundation to stop fundraising in New York.

Schneiderman resigned in May after allegations that he physically abused women he had dated; he denied the claims.

His successor, Democratic Attorney General Barbara Underwood, filed the lawsuit in June, claiming the Trump Foundation "was little more than a checkbook for payments from Mr. Trump or his businesses to nonprofits, regardless of their purpose or legality." The suit seeks \$2.8 million in restitution and the foundation's disbandment.

The filing said Underwood continued the "inflammatory rhetoric, stating publicly that she considers her battles with the President 'the most important work (she) has ever done' and has vowed that such 'work will continue.'"

Trump's lawyers also argued that several impermissible donations by the foundation were due to clerical errors and were all corrected when brought to the attention of foundation officials.

In a statement Thursday, the attorney general's office said it won't back down from "holding Trump and his associates accountable for their flagrant violations of New York law."

"As our lawsuit detailed, the Trump Foundation functioned as a personal piggy bank to serve Trump's business and political interests," the statement said.

At least 7 die as Greyhound bus, semitrailer collide head-on

By SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN and ALINA HARTOUNIAN

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A blown tire on a semitrailer may be to blame for a deadly head-on crash with a commercial passenger bus along Interstate 40 in New Mexico near the Arizona border, according to authorities.

At least seven people were killed, and many of the 49 passengers aboard the Greyhound bus were injured, although authorities couldn't immediately provide an exact count of how many were hurt or their conditions.

New Mexico State Police said the semi was headed east on the freeway Thursday afternoon when one of its tires blew, sending the rig carrying produce across the median and into oncoming traffic, where it slammed into the Greyhound heading to Phoenix from Albuquerque.

The National Transportation Safety Board and New Mexico state police are investigating.

At least nine bus passengers were being treated at University of New Mexico Hospital. UNM officials didn't release any details about the patients' conditions.

Passing motorists described a chaotic scene with passengers on the ground and people screaming.

Eric Huff was heading to the Grand Canyon with his girlfriend when they came across the crash. The semi's trailer was upside down and "shredded to pieces," and the front of the Greyhound bus was smashed, he said, with many of the seats pressed together. Part of the side of the bus was torn off, he said.

"It was an awe-inspiring, terrible scene," he said

Truck driver Santos Soto III shot video showing the front of the Greyhound sheared off and the semi split open, with its contents strewn across the highway.

He saw people sobbing on the side of the road as bystanders tried to comfort them.

"I was really traumatized myself, because I've been driving about two years and I had never seen anything like that before," Soto said.

"I'm a pretty strong person and I broke down and cried for at least 30 minutes," he added.

Chris Jones was headed west on Interstate 40 when he caught his first glimpse of the semi turned over. He saw the rest of the wreckage and stopped to help before coming across the driver of the semi sitting on the shoulder of the highway.

"It was intense," Jones said.

He said the driver told him that one of his front tires had popped, forcing the truck to veer into oncoming traffic, where it struck the bus.

"We are fully cooperating with local authorities and will also complete an investigation of our own," Greyhound spokeswoman Crystal Booker said in a statement.

The crash occurred near the town of Thoreau. It forced the closure of westbound lanes of the interstate and traffic was backing up as travelers were diverted.

Hartounian reported from Phoenix.

Concern in White House over shortage of lawyers, press aides

By ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Increasingly convinced that the West Wing is wholly unprepared to handle the expected assault from Democrats if they win the House in November, President Donald Trump's aides and allies are privately raising alarm as his circle of legal and communications advisers continues to shrink.

With vacancies abounding in the White House and more departures on the horizon, there is growing concern among Trump allies that the brain drain at the center of the administration could hardly come at a more perilous time. Special counsel Robert Mueller's swirling probe of Russian election interference and potential obstruction of justice by Trump has reached ever closer to the Oval Office, and the upcoming midterm elections could grant his political adversaries the power of subpoena or, more worryingly, the votes to attempt impeachment.

Nine current and former White House staffers and administration allies expressed concerns Thursday that the West Wing is simply unprepared for the potential troubles ahead. They spoke on the condition of anonymity over concerns about estranging colleagues.

Attrition, job changes and firings have taken their toll across the White House, but their impact has been felt particularly in the communications and legal shops — two departments crucial to Trump staving off the looming threats. The upcoming departure of White House counsel Don McGahn has highlighted the challenges in an office that has shrunk by a third since last year.

McGahn's deputy and chief of staff, Annie Donaldson, is also expected to leave soon after McGahn departs, two staffers said. Similarly, the White House press office is down to four press secretaries working on day-to-day White House matters, including Sarah Huckabee Sanders, and the regional and Cabinet affairs media teams in the communications office have been hollowed out.

The staffing shortage and struggles to recruit top-flight talent have left the White House ill-prepared to handle the legal onslaught that may come when Mueller issues an expected report summarizing his findings and the flood of congressional investigations that could follow a Democratic takeover of the House.

Former Fox News executive Bill Shine, who joined the White House earlier this summer as communications director and deputy chief of staff, is looking to rebuild a shrunken media affairs team in anticipation of the challenges ahead.

Shine is said to be looking for seasoned communications professionals to handle both Mueller-related questions and congressional oversight requests.

"He's doing a lot of thinking about how to properly structure everything, not only for a Trump White House but for what the next couple of years will be like," said former White House press secretary Sean Spicer.

But like other White House departments, the effort to fill jobs is proving difficult. Qualified candidates are steering clear of the volatile West Wing, ignoring pleas from Shine and others to join the administration over fears to their reputation and even potential legal exposure, according to current and former officials and one candidate approached by the White House. Those people and others spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss private deliberations and conversations.

Others are wary of joining the team to defend the president, knowing full well he will often ignore their advice or could turn on them by tweet.

A White House official disputed that the administration has had difficulty filling positions with talented people.

Trump allies have long boasted that he was his own political consultant during the 2016 campaign and serves as his own communications director inside the White House, but they are increasingly cautioning him that he can't be his own attorney as well.

Indeed, his outside legal team reached out to some of Washington's most prominent attorneys, including Supreme Court litigator Ted Olson, before former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani — a longtime friend of the president whose erratic television interviews have defined his tenure — joined the team in April. Since then, Giuliani has been the primary public face of the defense team, along with Jay Sekulow, a lawyer specializing in constitutional law and religious liberties. A husband-wife duo, Martin and Jane Raskin, was

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 33 of 57

also added to work behind the scenes.

At the same time, the president is more volatile than ever, creating new challenges for both his communication and legal teams.

Trump built his professional empire on a foundation of secrecy, enforced by fixers, lawyers, hush payments and non-disclosure agreements. Seeing that world collapse around him in recent weeks has yielded intense frustration in the president, who has angrily told confidants that he feels betrayed by a number of former allies, including attorney Michael Cohen and National Enquirer head David Pecker.

Trump has denounced the "sweetheart deal" received by Cohen, fumed about the overzealous prosecution of former campaign chair Paul Manafort and seethed over the pressure on Pecker to agree to an immunity deal, according to two Republicans close to the White House but not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

Trump signaled Thursday that he has settled on a successor for McGahn. "I am very excited about the person who will be taking the place of Don McGahn as White House Counsel!" Trump tweeted Thursday. He sent a later tweet that spelled "counsel" correctly.

Trump also took a shot at reports that McGahn had threatened to resign last year if the president continued to press for Mueller's removal.

"I liked Don, but he was NOT responsible for me not firing Bob Mueller or Jeff Sessions. So much Fake Reporting and Fake News!" Trump said, referring as well to his attorney general, who recused himself from the investigation, much to the president's annoyance.

The widely expected pick to replace McGahn is White House attorney Emmet Flood, who joined Trump's White House in May as in-house counsel for the Mueller probe and has McGahn's support in taking the role.

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If the Democrats win, Trump is expected to face not only possible impeachment hearings, but a bombardment of Congressional subpoenas, inquiries and hearings that Democrats hope will hobble his administration, giving it little room to do much else.

"At that point," said Corallo, "the president's going to need some very skilled attorneys" — Constitutional scholars who are familiar with the past impeachments of Clinton and former President Andrew Johnson, have dozens of Supreme Court arguments under their belt, are highly respected and understand the mechanics and the politics of impeachment hearings.

But others were less concerned.

"Everybody wants to make sure he gets the best advice," former campaign adviser Barry Bennett said of the president. "But battling is something he's very good at, so he's got some home turf advantage."

Trump, too, dismissed the chatter in an interview Thursday with Bloomberg News.

"I don't think they can impeach somebody that's doing a great job," he said.

Lemire reported from New York. Associated Press writer Eric Tucker contributed to this report.

Washington prepares to say goodbye to late Sen. John McCain

By LAURIE KELLMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's Washington's turn to say goodbye to the late Sen. John McCain. And McCain is saying farewell — his way.

The six-term Republican senator, who lived and worked in nation's capital over four decades, will lie in

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 34 of 57

state under the U.S. Capitol rotunda Friday for a ceremony and public visitation. On Saturday, McCain's procession pauses by the Vietnam Memorial and heads for Washington National Cathedral for a formal funeral service. At McCain's request, two former presidents — Democrat Barack Obama and Republican George W. Bush — are expected to speak there.

People close to the White House and McCain's family said President Donald Trump, who has mocked McCain for getting captured during the Vietnam War, has been asked to stay away from all events.

McCain's funeral puts him back in the spotlight a few miles from Trump's doorstep, in the city where the senator, who died Saturday at 81, worked and collected friends and enemies — and some people were both at different times. The procession is expected to continue highlighting what McCain found important, some of which contrasts with Trump's style and priorities.

Vice President Mike Pence will speak at the Capitol ceremony Friday, and other officials will represent the administration in Trump's hard-to-miss absence. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis greeted the McCain family Thursday night when the late senator's casket was flown into Joint Base Andrews, Maryland.

McCain chose a Russian dissident as a pallbearer after Trump professed repeatedly his affinity and admiration for Russia and its president, Vladimir Putin — praise that came amid special counsel Robert Mueller's probe into Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election.

The procession's pause at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, where McCain's widow, Cindy, is expected to lay a wreath, will highlight McCain's military service and his more than five years as a prisoner of war.

Trump obtained deferments during the Vietnam War for his college education and for bone spurs in his heels.

The McCain farewell began Wednesday and Thursday in Arizona, where he and Cindy McCain raised their family. Former Vice President Joe Biden and others provided a preview of the tributes to come.

None of the speakers at the North Phoenix Baptist Church on Thursday uttered Trump's name. But Biden, who is considering challenging Trump in 2020, made what some saw as a veiled reference to the president. He talked about McCain's character and how he parted company with those who "lacked the basic values of decency and respect, knowing this project is bigger than yourself."

Biden said McCain "could not stand the abuse of power wherever he saw it, in whatever form, in whatever country."

Longtime McCain friend Tommy Espinoza told the 3,500 mourners that "We all make America great," a strikingly similar phrase to Trump's campaign slogan, "Make America Great Again."

The church's senior pastor, Noe Garcia, pronounced McCain "a true American hero."

Much of the proceedings were lighthearted, noting McCain's penchant for battle.

Biden advised McCain's friends and family to remember snapshots of him, such as a glance or a touch. "Or when you saw the pure joy the moment he was about to take the stage on the Senate floor and start a fight. God, he loved it."

McCain's longtime chief of staff, Grant Woods, a former Arizona attorney general, drew laughs with a eulogy in which he talked about McCain's "terribly bad driving" and his sense of humor, which included calling the Leisure World retirement community "Seizure World." When McCain and Woods arrived at the community to apologize, Woods said, they saw a resident near the entrance making an obscene gesture at them.

The service brought to a close two days of mourning for the U.S. senator and 2008 GOP presidential nominee in his home state.

At the end of the nearly 90-minute ceremony, McCain's casket was wheeled out of the church to "My Way," in tribute to a politician known for following his own path.

Associated Press writers Anita Snow, Jacques Billeaud and Terry Tang in Phoenix contributed to this report.

Follow Kellman on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/APLaurieKellman>

Australian arrested at Cambodian rally convicted of spying

By SOPHENG CHEANG, Associated Press

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — An Australian filmmaker arrested after flying a drone to photograph a Cambodian opposition party rally last year was convicted of spying and sentenced to six years in prison Friday.

James Ricketson had faced up to 10 years in prison. Almost two dozen jailed critics or opponents of Prime Minister Hun Sen's government had been freed in recent weeks following a sweeping ruling party election victory, which had raised hopes of leniency in Ricketson's case.

Ricketson has been detained without bail since his arrest in June last year.

Prosecutors have indicated he was suspected of working with the opposition party or had worked directly for a foreign power, though that country was never specified in court. The charge against him, endangering national security, was tantamount in legal terms to espionage.

As the prison van left after the panel of judges delivered the verdict, Ricketson shouted to reporters the same question he often raised throughout his trial: "Who am I spying for?"

Before hearing the verdict, he told The Associated Press that based on the evidence and facts in the case, he should be set free.

His lawyer, Kong Sam Onn, said he would consult with his client on what to do next. He said there were two options: to file an appeal, or accept the verdict and ask Prime Minister Hun Sen to convey a request for a pardon to King Norodom Sihamoni. Ricketson's health was not good, he added.

Ricketson, 69, repeatedly insisted he had no political agenda and his work making documentary films was journalistic in nature. Character witnesses testified to his filmmaking work and financial generosity to several poor Cambodians.

The evidence presented against Ricketson appeared thin, but Cambodia's courts are considered highly politicized and their rulings often tightly align with the ruling party's agenda. A handful of personal emails seized from Ricketson suggested he was sympathetic to the country's political opposition and critical of Hun Sen's government, but revealed no sensitive or secret information. Several of his photos and videos showed security forces on duty, but only in publicly viewable situations.

New York-based group Human Rights Watch blasted the court's decision.

"This trial exposed everything that's wrong with the Cambodian judicial system: ridiculously excessive charges, prosecutors with little or no evidence, and judges carrying out political orders from the government rather than ruling based on what happens in court."

He also criticized Australia for failing to publicly and consistently challenge Cambodia in the case, saying Canberra's soft and quiet diplomacy with Southeast Asian dictators "is not just morally bankrupt - it's also totally ineffective."

Australia's new Prime Minister Scott Morrison, on a visit to Indonesia, told reporters that Ricketson "can expect to get all the consular and other support from the Australian government you would expect in these circumstances."

"As usual in these types of events it is best to deal with these things calmly and directly and in a way which best assists a citizen," he said.

Members of Ricketson's family at a news conference in Sydney said they were counting on their government's assistance.

"We are really looking for a lot more support moving forward from the new Australian government," said Bim Ricketson, James Ricketson's nephew. "We know that they are, they have their attention on this and we know that they are working on it, but now really is the time for a lot of support to be shown and as much pressure as possible to be brought to it, to find some kind of way out of this."

In addition to accusing Ricketson of spying, Cambodian prosecutors had indicated he also was suspected of working with the opposition Cambodian National Rescue Party, which for a time had enough popularity among Cambodians to be a viable challenger to Hun Sen's rule. The party's dissolution by a court ruling last year assured Hun Sen's party of its sweeping victory in the July general elections, which returned Hun

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 36 of 57

Sen to office for five more years.

The leniency shown to opponents and critics following the election followed a pattern of Hun Sen's long rule, with a harsh crackdown on opponents and critics preceding the vote and clemency and conciliatory moves after a resounding victory.

Ricketson testified in his defense that he made contacts with the opposition party strictly for journalistic purposes while making a documentary film. He recounted a filmmaking career dating to the 1970s, and presented acclaimed Australian movie director Peter Weir to attest to his professionalism in the field.

Ricketson's other character witnesses were several Cambodians, including his informally adopted daughter, who described how he had provided financial assistance to them and other poor members of Cambodian society.

Ricketson's son, Jesse, who attended his father's trial, expressed hope future developments may see his father's release.

"We just need a bit of time to absorb what's just happened and figure out the next step," he said. "As always, we're hoping and praying for generosity, and leniency, and compassion to be shown to my father in this situation, so hopefully we'll see something good happening in the future."

AP Essay: Aretha Franklin, John McCain and the 1960s

By TED ANTHONY, AP National Writer

"Hope I die before I get old," the Who sang at Woodstock as the 1960s hurtled to their end. Indeed, the decade and its echoes made premature legends of so many — Kennedy to King, Hendrix to Joplin to Morrison. They became emblems of an era, and the packaging of their virtues and vices has never really stopped.

But then there were those who didn't die, who did get old and emerged from that crucible and carried themselves through the arc of a life unabbreviated. They moved across decades and changes and navigated a culture that their younger selves would not have recognized.

That's the crossroads where both Aretha Franklin and John McCain stood — shaped by the decade that reshaped so much of American life but propelled into the 1970s and all the way to 2018, carrying some of the fundamental storylines of the 1960s as they progressed forward.

Think of the most dominant, most kinetic narratives of the 60s, the fiery combustion engines that drove the decade: From race, gender and music (Franklin) to war and politics (McCain), they are contained in the two figures to whom we bid farewell this week.

They exit the stage together in an American moment not unlike the period when each emerged. Fifty years after the cataclysmic year of 1968, today we are in a similar period of upheaval and polarization — a time when American society's foundational pillars are being questioned and people of all political persuasions are deeply angry and uncertain about the nation's path.

At a juncture like this, faced with this pair of memorials of a man and woman so very different and yet so uniquely representative of the American experience, what better time to stop and think about such figures, about what they meant and mean?

Sure, we're doing that. But are we doing it effectively?

In the past few days, the American packaging machine has pulled these two lives into slick renditions of who they actually were. Video montages, photo slide shows, memories and even the pleasingly compact monikers we throw around — the "Queen of Soul" and the "Maverick" — are sweet and nostalgic, yes. But they tend to reduce whole lifetimes to their clichéd sharpest edges: the most popular hit songs, the most pointed quotes, the most outsized moments.

The United States is often accused of being an ahistorical nation, and these fragmentary, Twitter-feed-like glimpses of entire lives make that assertion easier to prove. Sort of like we've come to view the 1960s themselves through the prism of reductive, Halloween-party buzzwords like "flower children," "sit-in" and "Summer of Love."

"If there were ever a moment for us to talk and sit down and reflect about who we are, where we came

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 37 of 57

from and where we're going, this weekend should give us that moment," says Ron Pitcock, an assistant dean at Texas Christian University who teaches about American cultural memory.

"We need to not compartmentalize these two people into these convenient narratives," he says. "We have two giants who waded through these muddy waters for us. If we settle for just making them an icon or giving them celebrity, then we've completely failed in this moment of reflection."

The places where those muddy waters flowed were sometimes even muddier. Since the 1960s, the country has only gotten more complicated and, many believe, even more fraught.

Trust in government sits near historic lows after beginning to plummet around the time that Franklin's voice started becoming a household sound and McCain was enduring his years in North Vietnamese custody. Music, delivered on vinyl discs for Franklin's first recordings, is now more typically served up in bits and bytes. And the stories of race and gender in America remain raw, ragged and aggressively unresolved.

What's illuminating about McCain and Franklin, in the context of the formative eras and experiences that produced them, is this: Each navigated historical currents — rode them, you might even argue — and each figured out how to remain relevant and impactful on their communities. Lives of high drama, yes, but staying power, too.

"Years matter. The people from the '60s who end up shaping America were often the ones that lasted. Ted Kennedy shaped America much more than John F. Kennedy," says John Baick, a historian at Western New England University.

"So many figures from the '60s are caricatures of themselves," he says. "Aretha Franklin and John McCain didn't talk about the good old days. They wanted to bring the past into the present. They were living reminders."

The very youngest Baby Boomers are in their mid-50s now — despite the exhortation to never trust anyone over 30 — and more than half of today's Americans have no living memory of the 1960s. When personal experience ebbs, myth fills in the mortar between the bricks.

But those who were shaped by the decade continue to influence it, both alive and dead. Sales of Franklin's music on the day after her death increased by more than 1,500 percent, *Billboard Magazine* reported.

"Music changes, and I'm gonna change right along with it," Franklin once said — or, at least, is widely quoted as saying. The 1960s were a time of great and lurching change. Those who made it through often had to change again and again — continuously, even. She did. He did.

That might be the ultimate echo of that long-ago decade that Aretha Franklin and John McCain leave us with this week. Looking past all else, the main story of the 1960s was change — causing it, managing it, figuring out how to live with it.

We're still not anywhere near where we need to be with that, as American politics today so clearly demonstrate. In that respect, the lives of these two — and similar figures who survive them — hold clues still to be uncovered. Discuss.

Ted Anthony, director of digital innovation for The Associated Press, writes frequently about American culture. Follow him on Twitter at @anthonyted.

Report: Chris Berman's wife was intoxicated at time of crash

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — The wife of longtime ESPN broadcaster Chris Berman had a blood-alcohol level three times the legal limit when she rear-ended another man's car, killing them both, according to a state police report.

The Hartford Courant reports that police determined Katherine Berman was speeding and did not apply her brakes before crashing into a car driven by 87-year-old Edward Bertulis.

State police closed the investigation without filing any charges because both drivers died.

Bertulis was on his way back from visiting his wife's grave at the time of the crash on May 9, 2017, in Woodbury.

The speed limit on the road is 45 mph, but an accident reconstruction team determined Berman was traveling up to 82 mph before impact. Police believe Bertulis was driving about 30 mph when his car was

struck.

The family of Bertulis has filed a lawsuit alleging that a Woodbury restaurant served alcohol to Berman while she was intoxicated before the crash.

Toxicology tests found that Berman had a blood alcohol level of .26, according to the investigative report. The legal limit in Connecticut is .08. Berman also had traces of other medications in her system including oxycodone and anti-depressants.

Chris Berman, who was in New York on the afternoon of the crash, told police that his wife had recently suffered a minor back fracture that was receiving treatment.

This story has been corrected to show the last name of the victim is spelled Bertulis, not Bertulius.

Information from: Hartford Courant, <http://www.courant.com>

Trump allies fret over West Wing vacancies as threats loom

By ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Increasingly convinced that the West Wing is wholly unprepared to handle the expected assault from Democrats if they win the House in November, President Donald Trump's aides and allies are privately raising alarm as his circle of legal and communications advisers continues to shrink.

With vacancies abounding in the White House and more departures on the horizon, there is growing concern among Trump allies that the brain drain at the center of the administration could hardly come at a more perilous time. Special counsel Robert Mueller's swirling probe of Russian election interference and potential obstruction of justice by Trump has reached ever closer to the Oval Office, and the upcoming midterm elections could grant his political adversaries the power of subpoena or, more worryingly, the votes to attempt impeachment.

Nine current and former White House staffers and administration allies expressed concerns Thursday that the West Wing is simply unprepared for the potential troubles ahead. They spoke on the condition of anonymity over concerns about estranging colleagues.

Attrition, job changes and firings have taken their toll across the White House, but their impact has been felt particularly in the communications and legal shops — two departments crucial to Trump staving off the looming threats. The upcoming departure of White House counsel Don McGahn has highlighted the challenges in an office that has shrunk by a third since last year.

McGahn's deputy and chief of staff, Annie Donaldson, is also expected to leave soon after McGahn departs, two staffers said. Similarly, the White House press office is down to four press secretaries working on day-to-day White House matters, including Sarah Huckabee Sanders, and the regional and Cabinet affairs media teams in the communications office have been hollowed out.

The staffing shortage and struggles to recruit top-flight talent have left the White House ill-prepared to handle the legal onslaught that may come when Mueller issues an expected report summarizing his findings and the flood of congressional investigations that could follow a Democratic takeover of the House.

Former Fox News executive Bill Shine, who joined the White House earlier this summer as communications director and deputy chief of staff, is looking to rebuild a shrunken media affairs team in anticipation of the challenges ahead.

Shine is said to be looking for seasoned communications professionals to handle both Mueller-related questions and congressional oversight requests.

"He's doing a lot of thinking about how to properly structure everything, not only for a Trump White House but for what the next couple of years will be like," said former White House press secretary Sean Spicer.

But like other White House departments, the effort to fill jobs is proving difficult. Qualified candidates are steering clear of the volatile West Wing, ignoring pleas from Shine and others to join the administration over fears to their reputation and even potential legal exposure, according to current and former officials and one candidate approached by the White House. Those people and others spoke on condition

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 39 of 57

of anonymity to discuss private deliberations and conversations.

Others are wary of joining the team to defend the president, knowing full well he will often ignore their advice or could turn on them by tweet.

A White House official disputed that the administration has had difficulty filling positions with talented people.

Trump allies have long boasted that he was his own political consultant during the 2016 campaign and serves as his own communications director inside the White House, but they are increasingly cautioning him that he can't be his own attorney as well.

Indeed, his outside legal team reached out to some of Washington's most prominent attorneys, including Supreme Court litigator Ted Olson, before former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani — a longtime friend of the president whose erratic television interviews have defined his tenure — joined the team in April. Since then, Giuliani has been the primary public face of the defense team, along with Jay Sekulow, a lawyer specializing in constitutional law and religious liberties. A husband-wife duo, Martin and Jane Raskin, was also added to work behind the scenes.

At the same time, the president is more volatile than ever, creating new challenges for both his communication and legal teams.

Trump built his professional empire on a foundation of secrecy, enforced by fixers, lawyers, hush payments and non-disclosure agreements. Seeing that world collapse around him in recent weeks has yielded intense frustration in the president, who has angrily told confidants that he feels betrayed by a number of former allies, including attorney Michael Cohen and National Enquirer head David Pecker.

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Lemire reported from New York. Associated Press writer Eric Tucker contributed to this report.

Trump cancels pay raise due to federal workers in January

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is canceling pay raises due in January for most civilian federal employees, he informed Congress on Thursday, citing budget constraints. But the workers still could see a slightly smaller boost in their pay under a proposal lawmakers are considering.

Trump said he was nixing a 2.1 percent across-the-board raise for most workers as well as separate locality pay increases averaging 25.7 percent.

"We must maintain efforts to put our Nation on a fiscally sustainable course, and Federal agency budgets cannot sustain such increases," Trump said. The president last year signed a package of tax cuts that is forecast to add about \$1.5 trillion to federal deficits over 10 years.

As workers across the country head into the Labor Day weekend, Trump cited the "significant" cost of the federal workforce, and called for their pay to be based on performance and designed to recruit, retain and reward "high-performing Federal employees and those with critical skill sets."

At the same time, Trump planned during a Friday appearance in Charlotte, North Carolina, to direct the Labor and Treasury departments to issue regulations designed to make it easier for small businesses to pool resources so they can offer retirement savings plans to their workers, administration officials told reporters. Most small businesses say high costs discourage them from offering plans like 401(k)s, the officials said.

Democrats criticized Trump for moving to cancel the scheduled pay raise, citing tax cuts he signed into law last December. That law provided steep tax cuts for corporations and the wealthiest Americans, and more modest reductions for middle- and low-income individuals and families.

"Trump has delivered yet another slap in the face to American workers," said Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez.

Under the law, the 2.1 percent raise takes effect automatically unless the president and Congress act to change it. Congress is currently debating a proposal for a slightly lower, 1.9 percent across-the-board raise to be included in a funding bill that would require Trump's signature to keep most government functions operating past September.

Unions representing the 2 million-member federal workforce urged Congress to pass the 1.9 percent pay raise.

"President Trump's plan to freeze wages for these patriotic workers next year ignores the fact that they are worse off today financially than they were at the start of the decade," said J. David Cox Sr., national president of the American Federation of Government Employees, which represents some 700,000 federal workers.

"They have already endured years of little to no increases and their paychecks cannot stretch any further as education, health care costs, gas and other goods continue to get more expensive," added Tony Reardon, national president of the National Treasury Employees Union.

Cox said federal worker pay and benefits have been cut by more than \$200 billion since 2011.

Congress has approved legislation to give military service members a 2.6 percent pay raise, the biggest in nine years, but funding must still be approved.

In July, the Trump administration sharply revised upward its deficit estimates compared to the estimates in the budget proposal it sent Congress in February. The worsening deficit reflects the impact of the \$1.5

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 41 of 57

trillion, 10-year tax cut, as well as increased spending for the military and domestic programs that Congress approved earlier this year.

The administration's July budget update projected a deficit of \$890 billion for the fiscal year that ends Sept. 30, up from the February estimate of \$873 billion. The \$890 billion projection represents a 34 percent increase from the \$666 billion in 2017.

For 2019, the administration is projecting the deficit will top \$1 trillion and stay above that level for the next three years.

The only other period when the federal government ran deficits above \$1 trillion was the four years from 2009 through 2012, when the government used tax cuts and increased spending to combat the 2008 fiscal crisis and the worst economic downturn since the 1930s.

Trump's call for a federal pay freeze was included in his budget proposal for 2019, the Office of Management and Budget said. Officials did not immediately say whether the pay freeze would also apply to White House staffers.

Rep. Gerry Connolly, D-Va., who represents many federal workers, blamed what he said was Trump's mismanagement of federal government.

"His tax bill exploded the deficit, and now he is trying to balance the budget on the backs of federal workers," Connolly said.

AP Economics Writer Martin Crutsinger and Associated Press writers Matthew Daly and Zeke Miller contributed to this report.

Follow Darlene Superville on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/dsupervilleap>

Man charged with making death threats over Trump editorials

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and BRIAN MELLEY, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A Los Angeles man upset about The Boston Globe's coordinated editorial response to President Donald Trump's attacks on the news media was arrested Thursday on charges he threatened to kill the newspaper's journalists, who he called an "enemy of the people," federal prosecutors said.

Robert Chain's phone calls to the Boston newsroom started immediately after the Globe appealed to newspapers across the country to condemn what it called a "dirty war against the free press," prosecutors said. He is accused of making 14 calls between Aug. 10 and Aug. 22.

On Aug. 16, the day scores of editorials were published, Chain, 68, of the Encino section of Los Angeles, told a Globe staffer that he was going to shoot employees in the head at 4 o'clock, according to court documents. That threat from a blocked phone number prompted a police response and increased security at the newspaper's offices.

Chain said he would continue threatening the Globe until it stops its "treasonous and seditious" attacks on Trump, according to a court complaint.

Several times, he called Globe employees the "enemy of the people," a characterization of journalists that Trump has used repeatedly, including in a tweet on Thursday before the charges were announced.

Newsrooms have received threats for years and rarely do they result in charges. However, sensitivity has been heightened since a gunman with a long-running grudge against the Capital Gazette newspaper in Annapolis, Maryland, killed five employees there in June.

Federal officials pledged to continue to go after anyone who puts others in fear of their lives.

"In a time of increasing political polarization, and amid the increasing incidence of mass shootings, members of the public must police their own political rhetoric. Or we will," Massachusetts U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling said.

Federal prosecutors asked that Chain be detained because of the seriousness of the threats combined with the fact that more than 20 guns and hundreds of rounds of ammunition were seized from his house. Some guns were in plain sight, such as a shotgun by the front door, while others were hidden, Assistant

U.S. Attorney Matt Rosenbaum said.

Rosenbaum acknowledged there was no evidence Chain, who is retired from the international sales and trade business, had planned to go to Boston. A federal magistrate rejected claims that Chain, who has no criminal record, was a flight risk or a danger that required him to be held behind bars.

Magistrate Judge Paul Abrams said Chain could be freed after he and his wife, who is a lawyer, signed papers guaranteeing to pay \$50,000 if he violates any terms of his release, which include surrendering his passport and any other guns.

"I don't think it's appropriate to keep him in custody for a night," Abrams said in rejecting a prosecutor's request to stay his order so they could appeal to have him held.

Chain, who repeatedly pulled at his long, dark hair that was dyed magenta at the ends, thanked the judge in a deep gravelly voice.

Chain was ordered to appear in a Boston courtroom by Sept. 24 to answer to charges of making threatening communications in interstate commerce, which calls for up to five years in prison.

Chain's wife, Betty, wouldn't comment before or after the court appearance.

Jane Bowman, a spokeswoman for the Globe, said the newspaper is grateful for law enforcement's efforts to protect its staffers and track down the source of the threats.

"While it was unsettling for many of our staffers to be threatened in such a way, nobody - really, nobody - let it get in the way of the important work of this institution," she said in an email.

A neighbor who lived across the street from Chain and only knew him as "Rob" said he had a bombastic personality and could frequently be heard yelling while watching television.

Tim McGowan said he knew nothing of Chain's political leanings and assumed he was an old hippie because he wore his hair in a "man bun" and frequently walked around in just shorts.

McGowan said he couldn't imagine Chain following through with violence, "but I could see him making the threats because he's such a loudmouth."

McGowan said he was startled awake by three loud bangs at 6 a.m. Thursday. When he looked outside, he saw about 30 heavily armed officers and a tank-like vehicle. Chain eventually emerged from the house in handcuffs, wearing only boxer shorts.

In 2013, Chain said he hadn't worked in more than 20 years and suffered from "continuing health issues," according to court documents filed in a civil case against him over unpaid student loans. Chain said at the time that he had a heart attack in 2005 and was receiving Social Security benefits.

Durkin Richer reported from Boston. Associated Press researcher Rhonda Shafner contributed from New York.

Follow Alanna Durkin Richer at <http://twitter.com/aedurkinricher> and read more of her work at <http://bit.ly/2hIhzDb>.

Dallas police group head: Convicted officer held accountable

By RYAN TARINELLI, Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — The head of Dallas' oldest and largest police employee organization said Thursday that good officers want bad ones off the streets and that a former suburban officer convicted in the shooting death of an unarmed black teenager was held accountable.

Roy Oliver, who is white, fired into a car filled with black teens leaving a suburban Dallas house party in April 2017, killing 15-year-old Jordan Edwards. A jury convicted Oliver of murder Tuesday and sentenced him to 15 years in prison Wednesday night.

Sgt. Michael Mata, president of the Dallas Police Association, said due process was followed in the murder trial. He said a large percentage of officers thought Oliver had committed a crime, but that there was debate over whether it was manslaughter or murder.

"What was accomplished this week was accountability," Mata said.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 43 of 57

Members of Edwards' family said the ex-officer's punishment was too lenient.

"He can actually see life again after 15 years and that's not enough because Jordan can't see life again," Edwards' stepmother, Charmaine Edwards, said of Oliver after his sentencing.

She praised the jury's decision to convict Oliver of murder, but wanted those same jurors to send him to prison for a longer period.

Daryl Washington, an attorney for Edwards' father, said the sentence could have been longer but still sends a message.

"We know that there are parents all over this country who would love to see the person who took the life of their kid spend the next 15 years in prison," Washington said.

Prosecutors had asked for a minimum of 60 years in prison. The jury, which featured two black members out of 12 jurors and two alternates, acquitted Oliver on two lesser charges of aggravated assault stemming from the shooting.

The murder conviction was extremely rare for a shooting involving an on-duty officer. Oliver's defense team said it had already begun the process of appealing. His attorneys said he would be eligible for parole after 7 ½ years, but they also said they were concerned about his safety in prison.

Oliver is being held in protective custody, alone in a single cell at the Dallas County Jail, said Dallas County Sheriff's Department spokesman Raul Reyna.

"For his safety, we take those precautions," Reyna said.

The status is typical for former officers who are jailed, he said, and Oliver is allowed up to an hour of recreation time a day.

Following the sentencing Wednesday night, Dallas County District Attorney Faith Johnson said her office does not support bad officers and is committed to prosecuting those who murder.

"And we won't wait. We're going to do exactly what we did in the Roy Oliver (case)," she said.

Charley Wilkison, executive director of the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas, the largest police officers union in the state, said Johnson made it a high-profile case from the beginning and politicized it. Oliver was a member of the union and it funded part of his legal defense, Wilkison said.

It's extremely rare for police officers to be tried and convicted of murder for shootings that occurred while they are on duty. Only six non-federal police officers have been convicted of murder in such cases — and four of those convictions were overturned — since 2005, according to data compiled by criminologist and Bowling Green State University professor Phil Stinson.

Oliver was a police officer in the community of Balch Springs when he and his partner responded to reports of underage drinking at the party. Oliver fired into a car carrying Edwards and his friends, later saying he feared the vehicle was moving toward and endangering his partner. Edwards, who was in the front passenger seat, was shot.

The jury deliberated late into the night on Wednesday before settling on a prison sentence, which also included a \$10,000 fine. Earlier that day, Oliver's mother told jurors that he was a good man and a devoted father and she asked them to sentence him to five years.

Oliver's wife, who testified in Spanish, said through an interpreter that she was concerned about their 3-year-old son, who is autistic.

But the ex-officer's half sister took the stand against him, saying she felt compelled to do so after listening to trial testimony and that she hoped he "gets what he deserves."

Police initially said the vehicle carrying Edwards and the other teens backed up toward officers "in an aggressive manner," but later admitted that bodycam video showed it was moving forward as officers approached. Oliver's partner told jurors he didn't believe his life was ever in danger.

Investigators said no guns were found in the vehicle. Oliver was fired from the Balch Springs Police Department days after the shooting.

Oliver still has two pending aggravated assault charges tied to the shooting. He has another two pending aggravated assault charges from an unrelated incident about two weeks before the shooting, in which he is accused of pointing a firearm after being rear-ended.

Edwards' father has also filed a civil lawsuit in connection to the shooting.

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Friends call John McCain hero, maverick at Arizona funeral

By MELISSA DANIELS and NICHOLAS RICCARDI, Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — A former vice president, an NFL star and other friends remembered Sen. John McCain as a "true American hero" — and a terrible driver with a wicked sense of humor and love of a good battle — at a crowded church service Thursday for the maverick politician that ended to the tune of Frank Sinatra's "My Way."

Addressing an estimated 3,500 mourners, former Vice President Joe Biden recalled "the sheer joy that crossed his face when he knew he was about to take the stage of the Senate floor and start a fight."

Biden, a Democrat who was among the fast friends the Republican senator made across the aisle, said he thought of McCain as a brother, "with a lot of family fights."

The service for the statesman, former prisoner of war and two-time presidential candidate unfolded at North Phoenix Baptist Church after a motorcade bearing McCain's body made its way from the state Capitol past Arizonans waving American flags and campaign-style McCain signs.

Family members watched in silence as uniformed military members removed the flag-draped casket from a black hearse and carried it into the church. McCain died Saturday of brain cancer at age 81.

McCain's longtime chief of staff Grant Woods, a former Arizona attorney general, drew laughs with a eulogy in which he talked about McCain's "terribly bad driving" and his sense of humor, which included calling the Leisure World retirement community "Seizure World."

Woods also recalled the way McCain would introduce him to new staff members by saying, "You'll have to fire half of them."

The church's senior pastor, Noe Garcia, pronounced McCain "a true American hero."

The service brought to a close two days of mourning for the six-term senator and 2008 GOP presidential nominee in his home state.

A motorcade then took McCain's body to the airport, where it was put aboard a military plane that flew to Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, outside Washington ahead of a lying-in-state at the U.S. Capitol on Friday, a service at the Washington National Cathedral on Saturday, and burial at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, on Sunday.

Twenty-four sitting U.S. senators and four former senators attended the church service, according to McCain's office.

Neither Biden nor other speakers uttered President Donald Trump's name, but Biden made what some saw as a veiled reference to the president when he talked about McCain's character and how he parted company with those who "lacked the basic values of decency and respect, knowing this project is bigger than yourself."

Biden said McCain "could not stand the abuse of power wherever he saw it, in whatever form, in whatever country."

Dabbing his eyes at times, Biden also referred to his own son's death from cancer, saying of the disease, "It's brutal, it's relentless, it's unforgiving." And he spoke directly to McCain's widow, Cindy McCain, in the front row: "You were his ballast."

At the end of the nearly 90-minute ceremony, McCain's casket was wheeled out of the church to "My Way," in tribute to a politician known for following his own path based on his personal principles.

McCain clashed openly with Trump, who mocked McCain for getting captured during the Vietnam War. Two White House officials said McCain's family had asked that Trump not attend the funeral services.

Trump, who had been widely criticized for his muted response to McCain's death, insisted in an interview with Bloomberg News Thursday that he'd honored the senator appropriately.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 45 of 57

"I've done everything that they requested and no, I don't think I have at all," he said in response to a question about whether he'd made a mistake and missed an opportunity to unite the country.

Asked whether McCain would have made a better president than McCain's 2008 rival, Barack Obama, Trump said: "I don't want to comment on it. I have a very strong opinion, all right."

The memorial was laced with humor and featured a racially and ethnically diverse roster of speakers and other participants.

Arizona Cardinals wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald, who is black, talked about his unlikely connection with McCain, a big fan of the state's sports teams.

"While from very different worlds, we developed a meaningful friendship," said Fitzgerald, adding that McCain didn't judge others on their skin color, gender or bank account but on their character.

As the 11-vehicle motorcade with a 17-motorcycle police escort made its way toward the church, people along the 8-mile (13-kilometer) route held signs that read simply "McCain," and cars on the other side of the highway stopped or slowed to a crawl in apparent tribute.

A few firefighters saluted from atop a fire engine parked on an overpass as the motorcade passed underneath on Interstate 17.

One man shouted, "We love you!"

It came a day after a private service was held at the Arizona Capitol for family and friends and then an estimated 15,000 people filed past the senator's casket to pay their final respects.

Michael Fellars was among those awaiting the motorcade outside the church Thursday. The Marine veteran said he was also the fourth person in line to attend the viewing at the state Capitol for McCain, a Navy pilot held prisoner by the North Vietnamese for 5½ years after being shot down over Hanoi.

"He was about the only politician that I have ever known who cared for the people in his country, and he tried his level best to make it a better place in which to live," Fellars said.

Associated Press writers Anita Snow, Jacques Billeaud and Terry Tang in Phoenix contributed to this report.

Chicago officer's interview before trial sparks legal fight

By DON BABWIN, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Attorneys prosecuting a white Chicago police officer in the 2014 shooting death of a black teenager asked a judge Thursday to revoke or increase his bail after the officer discussed one of the nation's most infamous police shootings in a media interview.

Jason Van Dyke's interview with the Chicago Tribune took place with his attorney standing nearby, and it quickly set off a new legal fight just days before jury selection in the case, which led to days of protests after a video of the shooting was made public and Van Dyke arrested.

When attorney Joel Brodsky saw the interview, he said, he knew one thing for sure: Van Dyke is never going to take the witness stand in the slaying of Laquan McDonald.

"This allows him to basically testify without taking the stand and being under oath, to tell the jurors that he's not a racist (and) he's never fired his gun," Brodsky said. "If he was going to take the stand, why give the interview?"

Prosecutors say the officer's comments, published Wednesday on the front page of the Tribune, were a clear violation of a judge's order prohibiting the parties in the case from talking about it publicly. A court hearing was scheduled for Saturday.

For the officer and his legal team, the interview raised the curtain on their strategy to humanize Van Dyke for prospective jurors. Until now, they said, their client has been defined only as the officer seen on dashcam video pumping 16 bullets into the body of a teenager armed with a folded pocketknife.

"During the past four years, there have been thousands of news stories portraying Mr. Van Dyke in an extremely negative light in this case," attorney Daniel Herbert said in a statement in response to prosecutors. "Not one has included Mr. Van Dyke's voice."

It can be a risky move, something Brodsky saw for himself when he represented Drew Peterson, the

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 46 of 57

suburban Chicago police officer who was charged with murder in the death of his third wife. Before he was convicted in 2012, Peterson gave interview after interview to national and local media outlets, often appearing smug and even enjoying the limelight brought on by investigation into the death of Kathleen Savio and the disappearance of his fourth wife, Stacy Peterson.

"His downside was not the things he was saying. It was his personality (and how) everything was a game and a goof to the guy," Brodsky said. "If I had it to do again, I would have restrained Drew more."

Audio of the Tribune interview was used by Chicago public radio station WBEZ. Van Dyke also gave an interview to the Chicago-area Fox station.

Asked why defendants might not want to talk, David Erickson, a former state appellate judge who teaches at Chicago Kent School of Law, pointed to an even more famous case: O.J. Simpson.

"When his lawyers kept their client's mouth shut, he was acquitted," Erickson said. But when the former football star was acquitted, "they couldn't keep his mouth shut, and he got sued and lost."

But to hear some observers tell it, it may have been a risk worth taking for Van Dyke, who has remained silent while media coverage has swirled around him.

"There's really been no other side to it, so all of a sudden before you know it, what happened has been defined in people's minds," said Guy Chipparoni, president of Res Publica Group, a strategic communications firm in Chicago. "You have to find a way to neutralize the landscape."

In fact, one prominent Chicago defense attorney, Joe Lopez, said Van Dyke had little choice.

"This guy has been convicted by all these grass roots groups saying this stuff about how he was the judge, jury and executioner, so the jury pool is absolutely tainted," he said. "He had to do something to untaint the jury pool and because the lawyers couldn't do that, the client did it."

And by taking that risk, David Erickson, a former state appellate judge who teaches law at the Chicago Kent College of Law, said potential jurors now know exactly what Van Dyke's lawyers want them to know.

"They know he's got two kids, a wife," he said, "and this has been really hard on him and his family."

Van Dyke was arrested in November 2015, a year after the shooting and on the same day that the video was released. The police department has suspended him without pay.

Anger at migrant crime, politicians simmers in German city

By FRANK JORDANS, Associated Press

CHEMNITZ, Germany (AP) — Anger over the suspected killing of a man by two refugees has sparked days of protests in this eastern German city, raising fresh concerns about the anti-migrant sentiment that has shaken up the country's political system and seen the rise of a far-right party for the first time in decades.

On Thursday, as hundreds of people protested nearby, the region's governor tried to reassure a tense town hall meeting that the fatal stabbing of the 35-year-old German citizen wouldn't go unpunished.

"The wheels of justice move slowly, but they are thorough," Gov. Michael Kretschmer told an at times hostile crowd at the Chemnitz soccer stadium.

Anti-migrant groups seized on Sunday's slaying of Daniel Hillig, a carpenter from Chemnitz, mobilizing thousands to a protest the following day. At least 18 people were injured when far-right extremists in the crowd clashed with counter-protesters Monday.

Footage of snarling skinheads chanting "Foreigners! Germany for Germans!" and hurling bottles as police struggled to keep the peace evoked memories of far-right violence that occurred in Germany during the 1990s, and, for some, of its dark Nazi past.

Green party lawmaker Claudia Roth told German news agency dpa that "organized far-right extremists" appeared to be using public anger over the killing for their own ends.

Kretschmer, a member of Chancellor Angela Merkel's center-right party, warned that Saxony's image could suffer if foreigners get the feeling they aren't safe there anymore. He cited an encounter with a Chinese woman earlier Thursday who told him she had been made to feel unwelcome in Chemnitz this week for the first time since moving there several years ago.

Saxony has long been a hotbed of anti-migrant sentiment. It is home to the group Patriotic Europeans

Against the Islamization of the West, or PEGIDA, and a stronghold of the far-right Alternative for Germany party, which received almost a quarter of the vote in the state last year.

While the share of foreigners in Saxony remains below the national average, concern among the population about migrants committing crimes is particularly high.

Many of the protesters outside the stadium Thursday refused to talk to the media, but those who did said they felt abandoned by politicians and were angry at the crimes committed by migrants.

"I've got three daughters," said Steffen Rake, a 52-year-old Chemnitz resident. "They don't go to town alone anymore and the police are present now, but only because the governor's coming."

Alina Hergesell, a woman in her 20s from nearby Erfurt, said she had been harassed by migrants in the past.

"They need to follow our rules, not other rules," she said.

Sebastian Gemkow, Saxony's justice minister, said authorities had initially been overwhelmed with the caseload caused by the influx of more than a million refugees in 2015 and 2016.

Illustrating the problem, daily newspaper Die Welt reported that a 22-year-old Iraqi suspected in Sunday's killing had applied for asylum in Bulgaria before coming to Germany and should have been returned there — but Germany authorities had failed to meet a deadline for his deportation.

Prosecutors said a 23-year-old Syrian has also been arrested. Both are being held on suspicion of manslaughter, though authorities said the charge may be upgraded to murder.

Merkel, who has condemned both the killing and the violent protests that followed, was mid-way through a three-day trip to Africa on Thursday. Among the top issues on her agenda there was how to prevent further mass migration from the continent to Europe.

Germany's long-time chancellor has come under pressure, including from her own party, to prevent a repeat of the influx seen three years ago and at the same time ensure the proper integration of those already in the country.

At the site of Sunday's killing, a message placed among hundreds of flowers and candles read: "Take away their knives or we'll take away your elected offices."

Follow Frank Jordans on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/wirereporter>

Harrowing account of tortured teen sparks outcry in Morocco

By AMIRA EL MASAITI, Associated Press

OULAD AYAD, Morocco (AP) — The mother of a 17-year-old Moroccan girl who told police she was gang-raped, forcibly tattooed and held against her will for two months recalled how her daughter was dumped at the family's home by two men, the scars of horror stamped on her body, "her honor lost."

The harrowing case in a nation where violence against women is widespread but largely ignored has sparked a public outcry, with people taking to social media to demand justice and a petition campaign invoking the teenager's name: "We are all Khadija."

The teen, whose story has dominated Moroccan media since an online video was posted last week showing her arms, legs and neck covered in crude tattoos and cigarette burns, told authorities she was released in mid-August after two months in captivity.

In an interview Wednesday with the Associated Press, her distraught mother said she fainted when she saw her daughter's desecrated body and asked whether the girl would ever again be the daughter she knew.

"I was caught off guard when those criminals brought my daughter and I saw her in this condition. I fainted ... I collapsed, seeing her like that, the tattoos, the burns, her honor lost," the mother said, speaking on condition of anonymity to protect the family's privacy and that of her daughter, who she referred to only by her first name, Khadija.

"Why did they do this to my child? Are they beasts? Will my daughter ever return to the way she was?" the mother asked.

Reflecting the stigma associated with sexual abuse in this Muslim nation, the girls' parents initially refused

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 48 of 57

to report her case to authorities.

"But she insisted," her mother said. "She picked up the family records and just went to the gendarmes. I followed her."

As the mother spoke, rabbits and chickens roamed about the cement floor of the family's rundown home in the town of Oulad Ayad in the Atlas Mountains of central Morocco, a rural region rife with poverty and high rates of illiteracy and unemployment.

Twelve suspects are in custody in the alleged kidnapping and rape, and three are still at large, according to Ibrahim Hashane, a volunteer lawyer who is pressing the case. He said Wednesday that an examining judge had ordered an investigation and a hearing was scheduled for Sept. 6.

In an online video interview with Morocco's Chouf TV last week, the girl alleged that her kidnapers "would assault me one by one," burned her and didn't feed her or let her shower. She displayed crude swastikas and other tattoos as well as cigarette burns on her hands and legs.

The teen said that two men kidnapped her at knife-point when she was visiting her aunt during the May-June holy month of Ramadan, before selling her to other men in exchange for money or drugs. She said her captors gave her drugs that knocked her out for days at a time.

The horrific account has sparked calls for an end to a culture that turns a blind eye to sexual assault and other violence against women, with nearly 75,000 people signing a petition urging action.

In an article titled "We are all Khadija," Moroccan author and filmmaker Abdellah Taïa, criticized what he called Morocco's rape culture and called on the government and King Mohammed VI to intervene. It was signed by dozens of Moroccan intellectuals.

"We will move on. A new source of collective excitement. Nothing will be done," he wrote. "And as always, it is women who pay the price of all the dysfunctions of a society that still does not want to grow."

Rape victims in Morocco often face backlash in a conservative society where they are often blamed for their ordeals.

In the case of Khadija, relatives of some of the suspects and others have come forward to cast aspersions on her character.

Among them was Houcine Harshi, president of the Moroccan Association for the Defense of Human Rights, who cautioned that her allegations should be viewed with caution and claimed that she was known in town for associating with drug users, something that her mother strongly denied.

Abdelwahed Saadi, a social worker and neighbor of the teen's family, said no circumstances could excuse the alleged assault.

"This girl is a minor. She says she has been abused and raped. Her words must be taken seriously," he said.

In Morocco, violence against women remains widespread and a largely taboo subject.

Concern about sexual violence gained momentum last year when video footage circulated online of boys on a bus ripping the clothes off a girl and groping her breasts, among other abuse. Neither the passengers nor the bus driver intervened.

In February, parliament passed a long-sought law recognizing some forms of abuse for the first time and criminalizing some forms of domestic violence. But critics say it doesn't go nearly far enough.

A survey by U.N. Women, a United Nations agency for the empowerment of women, carried out in the Moroccan capital, Rabat, and in some neighboring cities found that 41 percent of the men surveyed believe that financial support justified marital rape.

Over 50 percent reported having been emotionally abusive to their wives, and 15 percent acknowledged using physical violence against women.

The survey, conducted in 2016 and released in February, found that 62 percent of the men interviewed believe women must tolerate violence to preserve family unity. The study questioned 2,400 men and women over three months. No margin of error was given.

UN Syria envoy floats idea of evacuating Idlib civilians

By JAMEY KEATEN and NATALIYA VASILYEVA, Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — Fearing a military offensive, the U.N. envoy for Syria proposed Thursday that civilians holed up in the rebel-held region of Idlib could evacuate to government areas — a move that would send many back into parts of Syria they once fled in its 7-1/2-year-old civil war.

U.N. envoy Staffan de Mistura expressed fears of a “perfect storm” that could have a devastating impact on nearly 3 million people — nearly half of whom arrived from elsewhere in Syria — in the region largely controlled by al-Qaida-linked fighters. It came as Russia, President Bashar Assad’s strongest military backer, announced major military drills in the Mediterranean Sea amid growing tensions over the enclave.

“Short of going to Turkey, the civilians have no other option in order not to be where fighting may take place,” de Mistura told reporters of the evacuation plan, which is in its early phases and will need to be discussed with regional players. Russia expressed openness to the idea.

The evacuation proposal reflected rising concerns that Idlib could become the site of the latest humanitarian disaster in a country that has faced many of them during a war that has killed over 400,000 people and driven more than 5.5 million to flee abroad.

De Mistura said a proposal would be a “temporary” measure so that “people can then return to their own places untouched once this is over.”

Ahmad Ramadan, a spokesman for the Syrian opposition’s delegation to U.N. talks with the government, called de Mistura’s proposal “unrealistic.”

“It’s very regrettable,” he said. “The special envoy’s role is not to call for a humanitarian corridor, but to call on Russia to stop the aggression.”

Idlib is the last remaining refuge for the Syrian opposition since President Bashar Assad’s forces began recapturing territory from rebels in 2015. The country has been consumed by war since demonstrations broke out against Assad in 2011.

Separately on Thursday, at a news conference in Moscow with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem said his government plans to “liberate” Idlib, but that its priority was “to negotiate peace with those who want to surrender.”

Al-Moallem said the government tried to negotiate with a so-called reconciliation committee in Idlib, but al-Qaida-linked militants arrested most of the committee members.

The militants have arrested over 500 people accused of trying to negotiate with the regime in recent weeks, according to Rami Abdurrahman, who heads the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group.

De Mistura said 10,000 al-Qaida-linked fighters and their families are located in the densely populated region, which is now home to 2.9 million people, many of them already displaced.

After hosting nine rounds of fruitless talks between the Syrian government and opposition, de Mistura has recently focused his efforts on talks with the so-called “guarantors” of the peace process: Russia, Turkey and Iran.

De Mistura said he had no information about any “imminent attack,” but pointed to information about military build-ups and messages of warning between the sides in Syria. He also spoke of “warnings and counter-warnings” between the United States and Russia, though he did not elaborate.

“We need to reduce the risk of unexpected escalation, and definitely look with great concern about any potential use of chemical weapons or any type of weaponized chlorine,” he said.

The U.S. State Department said Thursday the best way to protect the civilians in Idlib is for Russia to compel the Assad regime to avoid a military offensive.

“The regime’s past brutality in Aleppo, Ghouta, and southwest Syria, to include indiscriminate targeting of civilian areas, indicate that they cannot be trusted to protect civilians in any military offensive,” the statement said. “Their past gestures at humanitarian pauses and corridors have not reduced the suffering caused by Russian and regime attacks. In fact, more than a million of the civilians currently living in Idlib previously fled regime control.”

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 50 of 57

The U.S., Britain and France have warned they will respond to any use of chemical weapons in Syria. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Thursday his country was engaged in talks with Iran and Russia to avoid a humanitarian calamity in Idlib. The leaders of Turkey, Iran, and Russia are slated to meet next week in Tabriz to discuss the mounting crisis.

The office of U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday warned of the growing risk of a humanitarian catastrophe, and called for restraint.

De Mistura floated two options: one to not accelerate military escalation to allow more time for talks, and another to "allow and facilitate a credible — credible — humanitarian corridor to allow the civilian population to temporarily evacuate to a safer area."

"But that area most likely is under government control," he said. "So that requires a constructive, effective government support and a U.N. presence." He said he could travel to the area himself to help monitor an evacuation.

"We definitely intend to discuss it very intensely with the government," de Mistura said.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov told Russian news agencies that Moscow is willing to discuss "the details, the general idea and what practical solutions there are."

It came shortly after Russia's Defense Ministry told Russian news agencies that Russia will deploy 25 ships, including a missile cruiser, and 30 jets for the maneuvers in the first week of September. The military says the drills will focus on anti-air and anti-submarine defense.

The drills were announced after NATO reported a Russian naval buildup in the Mediterranean.

Associated Press writers Philip Issa and Sarah El Deeb in Beirut and Susannah George in Washington contributed to this report.

Government accuses Harvard of 'outright racial balancing'

By MARIA DANILOVA, COLLIN BINKLEY and ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In its latest push to end the use of race in college admissions, the Trump administration on Thursday accused Harvard University of "engaging in outright racial balancing" and sided with Asian-American students who allege the Ivy League school discriminated against them.

Harvard denied the bias claim and said it would defend the right to consider race as a factor in admissions.

The Justice Department weighed in on a lawsuit filed in 2014 by Students For Fair Admission, which argues that one of the world's most prestigious universities discriminates against academically strong Asian-American applicants in favor of others who may be less qualified.

The agency said in a "statement of interest" that Harvard has failed to demonstrate that it does not discriminate on the basis of race and that its use of personal qualities in determining worthy applicants "may be infected with racial bias."

The Supreme Court permits colleges and universities to consider race in admissions decisions, but says that must be done in a narrowly tailored way to promote diversity and should be limited in time. Schools also bear the burden of showing why their consideration of race is appropriate.

In Harvard's case, Justice Department officials said, the university hasn't explained how it uses race in admissions and has not adopted meaningful criteria to limit the use of race.

"No American should be denied admission to school because of their race," Attorney General Jeff Sessions said.

Sessions said Harvard's use of a "personal rating," which includes highly subjective factors such as being a "good person" or "likability," may be biased against Asian-Americans. Sessions said the school admits that it scores Asian-American applicants lower on personal rating than other students. Sessions also argued that Harvard admissions officers monitor and manipulate the racial makeup of incoming classes.

Harvard said it was disappointed the department was "recycling the same misleading and hollow arguments that prove nothing more than the emptiness of the case against Harvard."

"Harvard does not discriminate against applicants from any group, and will continue to vigorously de-

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 51 of 57

defend the legal right of every college and university to consider race as one factor among many in college admissions, which the Supreme Court has consistently upheld for more than 40 years," the university said in a statement. "Colleges and universities must have the freedom and flexibility to create the diverse communities that are vital to the learning experience of every student."

Edward Blum, president of the group that sued Harvard, hailed the administration's action. "We look forward to having the gravely troubling evidence that Harvard continues to keep redacted disclosed to the American public in the near future," he said.

The department's court filing opposes Harvard's request to dismiss the suit before trial.

"Harvard's failure to provide meaningful criteria to cabin its voluntary use of race, its use of a personal rating that significantly harms Asian-American applicants' chances of admission and may be infected with racial bias, and the substantial evidence that Harvard is engaging in outright racial balancing each warrant denial" of Harvard's request, the department said.

The department is separately investigating Harvard's admissions policies.

There was no immediate comment on the move from the Education Department.

The filing follows a July decision by the those departments to abandon Obama-era guidelines that instructed universities to consider race in their admissions process to make the student body more diverse. Democrats said the Trump administration was taking away protections for minorities.

The Center for Equal Opportunity, a conservative think tank, cited Harvard's own analysis of its admissions data and said it "demonstrates that being African American, Native American, or Hispanic was a 'plus' factor in the competition for admission, but being Asian American proved to be a 'minus.'"

But Kristen Clarke, president of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, criticized the Justice Department for "signaling abandonment of the agency's long-standing historical mission of working to address racial discrimination and promote diversity."

She said the department's filing "ignores the well-documented racial bias embedded in grades and standardized test scores."

Shaun Harper, head of the Race and Equity Center at the University of Southern California, said that grades and test scores alone should not be the only factors when deciding whether to admit a student.

"Is the DOJ saying that it is in favor of Harvard being 100 percent Asian-American because if we are looking just at GPAs and test scores, it could very well be that those with the absolute higher scores would be Asian-Americans," Harper said. "Is this what the DOJ is saying it wants?"

Several other groups also filed court documents siding with Harvard.

More than 500 scholars who study college access and Asian-American studies asserted that the suit has failed to present any evidence of racial discrimination.

Also siding with Harvard were more than a dozen prominent economics professors from various colleges who defended a study Harvard presented finding no evidence of discrimination. A separate brief supporting Harvard was filed by the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund and 20 other Asian-American groups.

Binkley reported from Boston.

Trump teases about successor to White House counsel

By **DARLENE SUPERVILLE, KEN THOMAS and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A day after announcing the departure of his White House counsel, President Donald Trump teased Thursday that he's excited about his choice for a replacement but isn't ready to share his new lawyer's name.

Trump said Wednesday on Twitter that Don McGahn will leave in the fall. He has been a consequential insider on Trump's legal team and a key figure in the administration's handling of the federal investigation into Russian election interference and possible Trump campaign collusion.

"I am very excited about the person who will be taking the place of Don McGahn as White House Coun-

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 52 of 57

cel!" Trump tweeted Thursday. He sent a later tweet that spelled "counsel" correctly.

Trump also took a shot at reports that McGahn had threatened to resign last year if the president continued to press for the removal of special counsel Robert Mueller as head of the Russia investigation.

"I liked Don, but he was NOT responsible for me not firing Bob Mueller or Jeff Sessions. So much Fake Reporting and Fake News!" Trump said, referring as well to his attorney general, who recused himself from the investigation, much to the president's annoyance.

Trump said Thursday that the Russia investigation was not a factor, "even a little bit," in his decision about McGahn's departure.

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway said at the White House Thursday that Trump will make the announcement about McGahn's successor. She offered no timetable.

McGahn has done "a fantastic job as White House counsel," she said, mentioning his work on deregulation and the president's judicial nominees.

McGahn's exit, which has been expected for some time, continues the churn of top officials as the administration sets records for turnover and the White House struggles to fill key vacancies.

Unlike some less-amiable separations, however, Trump praised McGahn as "a really good guy" who has done "an excellent job."

Trump said Wednesday that McGahn's departure had nothing to do with the lawyer's interviews with the special counsel. Pressed by reporters, Trump said he had approved the interviews and was unconcerned about anything McGahn might tell prosecutors.

"We do everything straight," he said. "We do everything by the book."

The departure of Trump's top lawyer will hit one of the most critical — and yet least visible — positions in the West Wing. Besides dealing with Mueller's investigation, McGahn has had important input on a range of issues from policy to personnel to national security.

He will remain at the White House until after the expected Senate confirmation vote for Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, Trump said

Emmet Flood, who joined Trump's White House in May as in-house counsel for the Mueller probe, has been considered a leading candidate to replace him and has the departing attorney's support, two administration officials said. They spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss personnel matters.

Asked about Flood on Wednesday, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said: "People like him. He's super well-respected around the building. But there's not a plan locked in place at this point."

McGahn, 50, a top election lawyer who served as general counsel on Trump's campaign, has played a pivotal role in the president's remaking of the federal judiciary with young, conservative judges.

He also helped guide Trump's selection of Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch and the president's nomination of Kavanaugh and helped oversee a dramatic rollback of Obama-era regulations.

But McGahn's time has also been marked by tumult as he has been the main point of contact inside the White House for Mueller's investigation. He has met with investigators on at least three occasions for many hours at a time.

Trump's announcement came more than a week after a New York Times report that McGahn had been cooperating extensively with Mueller's probe.

Trump insisted at the time that his general counsel wasn't a "RAT" and contrasted him with John Dean, the White House counsel for President Richard Nixon during the Watergate scandal. Dean ultimately cooperated with prosecutors.

Senate Republicans aren't happy to see McGahn leaving.

Chuck Grassley of Iowa, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, tweeted after the president's announcement: "I hope it's not true McGahn is leaving White House Counsel. U can't let that happen."

Majority Leader Mitch McConnell hailed McGahn as the "most impressive White House Counsel during my time in Washington." He called the departure "sad news for our country."

When Trump announced McGahn's appointment in November 2016, he cited the attorney's "brilliant legal mind, excellent character and a deep understanding of constitutional law."

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 53 of 57

But McGahn quickly clashed with the president over the Russia investigation.

McGahn, a defender of executive powers, broke with some members of Trump's legal team as he encouraged a less-cooperative stance toward Mueller's investigation, believing it could constrain future presidents.

As members of Trump's legal team looked into potential conflicts of interest involving Mueller, Trump directed McGahn to call Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein to raise the perceived conflicts and push for Mueller's ouster, a person familiar with the matter said at the time.

McGahn put off making the call because he disagreed with the strategy, said the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe internal deliberations.

When the president persisted in pressing the issue, McGahn told other senior White House officials that he would resign if Trump didn't back off. Trump let the matter drop, the person said.

The president later denounced the reports as "fake news."

Associated Press writer Eric Tucker contributed to this report.

On Twitter follow Thomas at <https://twitter.com/KThomasDC> and Miller at <https://twitter.com/zekejmilller> and Superville at <https://twitter.com/dsupervilleap>

US ports fear tariffs could reduce ship traffic and jobs

By **DAVID KOENIG, AP Business Writer**

Ports and ground terminals in nearly every state handle goods that are now or will likely soon be covered by import tariffs. Port executives worry that this could mean a slowdown in shipping that would have ripple effects on truckers and others whose jobs depend on trade.

The Associated Press analyzed government data and found that from the West Coast to the Great Lakes and the Gulf of Mexico, at least 10 percent of imports at many ports could face new tariffs if President Donald Trump's proposals take full effect.

Since March, the U.S. has applied new tariffs of up to 25 percent on nearly \$85 billion worth of steel and aluminum and various Chinese products, mostly goods used in manufacturing.

Trump said in a recent tweet, "Tariffs are working big time." He has argued that the tariffs will help protect American workers and force U.S. trading partners to change rules that the president insists are unfair to the United States.

In New Orleans, port officials say a tariff-related drop in shipments is real, not merely a forecast. Steel imports there have declined more than 25 percent from a year ago, according to the port's chief commercial officer, Robert Landry.

The port is scouting for other commodities it can import. But expectations appear to be low.

"In our business, steel is the ideal commodity," Landry said. "It's big, it's heavy, we charge by the ton so it pays well. You never find anything that pays as well as steel does."

The port of Milwaukee imports steel from Europe and ships out agricultural products from the Midwest. Steel imports haven't dropped yet because they are under long-term contracts, said the port director, Adam Schlicht. But there has been "an almost immediate halt" in outbound shipments of corn because of retaliatory duties imposed by the European Union on American products.

Much of the corn, he said, "is just staying in silos. They are filled to the brim."

Many other ports have been humming along and even enjoyed an unexpected bump in imports during June and July as U.S. businesses moved up orders to ship before the new tariffs took effect. That started with manufacturing goods and is now spreading to retail items for back-to-school and Christmas.

"Some of my retail customers are forward-shipping the best they can to offset proposed tariffs," says Peter Schneider, executive vice president of T.G.S. Transportation, a trucking company in Fresno, California.

Port officials were encouraged by this week's announcement that the United States and Mexico had reached a preliminary agreement to replace the North American Free Trade Agreement, hoping it might lead to reduced trade barriers. Canada's participation in any new deal to replace NAFTA, though, remains

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 54 of 57

a major question mark.

The port officials continue to worry, though, that Trump will make good on a plan to expand tariffs to an additional \$200 billion in Chinese imports — a list that includes fish and other foods, furniture, carpets, tires, rain jackets and hundreds of additional items. Tariffs would make those items costlier in the United States. And if Americans buy fewer of those goods, it would likely lead to fewer container ships steaming into U.S. ports.

The impact will be felt keenly at West Coast ports like Los Angeles and Long Beach.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, relying on information from his port officials, said his port — the biggest in the United States — could suffer a 20 percent drop in volume if the additional \$200 billion in tariffs are imposed against Chinese goods.

Jock O'Connell, an economist in California who studies trade, said he doubts a downturn would be so severe — that would match the slump that accompanied the global recession of 2008 — “but we will see a definite impact.”

Here are some of the key findings from the AP analysis:

— U.S. tariffs will cover goods that are imported at more than 250 seaports, airports and ground terminals in 48 states.

— At 18 of 43 customs districts — including those representing ports around Los Angeles, San Francisco, New Orleans and Houston — at least 10 percent of their total import value could be covered by new tariffs if all Trump's proposals take effect.

— Retaliatory duties by China and other countries cover \$27 billion in U.S. exports.

Eugene Seroka, executive director of the Los Angeles port, worries that “if tariffs make it too expensive to import, there will be an impact on jobs.”

Seroka and others don't expect layoffs on the docks. Union longshoremen — whose average pay last year on the West Coast was \$163,000, according to the Pacific Maritime Association, which negotiates for the ports — often have contract provisions ensuring that they are paid even if there's no work. And there are fewer of them than there were a few decades ago because the advent of shipping containers has reduced the need for people on the docks.

Dwayne Boudreaux, an International Longshoremen's Association official in Louisiana, said, though, that his stevedores are handling about 10 percent less steel from Japan because of the new tariffs.

“We don't think it's going to (get) worse,” he said. But, he added, “who knows — that could change from the next press conference.”

The impact might be greater on truck drivers and warehouse workers. Fewer will be needed, according to O'Connell.

Many drivers who deliver shipping containers from the dock to warehouses are independents contracted by trucking companies, and they don't get paid if there is nothing to haul. Some might leave the profession, said Weston LaBar, CEO of the Harbor Trucking Association in Long Beach, California.

“It's hard to retain drivers,” he said. “If we don't have work for those drivers, we're worried they will leave for some other segment of the trucking business or go into another business, like construction.”

Less shipping means less revenue for the ports — something that could limit their ability to pay for expansion and improvement projects, according to Kurt Nagle, president of the American Association of Port Authorities. He said U.S. ports are in the midst of a planned \$155 billion in infrastructure spending from 2016 through 2020.

The current trade war was foreshadowed in January by steep U.S. tariffs on imported solar panels and washing machines. It exploded with the U.S. tariffs of 25 percent on imported steel and 10 percent on aluminum. Then came two rounds of duties targeting about \$50 billion in imports from China — punishment against that country for pressuring U.S. companies to transfer technology and intellectual property to Chinese companies.

Along the way, China, the European Union, Turkey, Canada and Mexico imposed retaliatory duties on U.S. goods including farm products and Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

This week, the U.S. Trade Representative's office finished six days of hearings on a plan to hit another

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 55 of 57

\$200 billion in Chinese imports with 10 percent duties. Trump has said that if China continues to retaliate he could eventually add tariffs on \$450 billion in Chinese goods, nearly 90 percent of that country's 2017 exports to the U.S.

Trade wars are usually temporary. President George W. Bush abandoned his steel tariffs after less than two years.

Milwaukee's port director worries, however, that damage from the current trade dispute could linger. Canada is increasing corn exports to Europe, and Brazil is trying to pick up the slack in soybean exports to China.

"Others are already picking up that business," Schlicht said.

AP data journalist Larry Fenn contributed to this report.

David Koenig can be reached at <http://twitter.com/airlinewriter>

Word on more China tariffs sends Asian stocks lower

By YURI KAGEYAMA, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares fell Friday following a report that the Trump administration could put tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese goods as early as next week.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 lost nearly 0.2 percent to 22,830.03 in early trading. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 slipped 0.3 percent to 6,334.10. South Korea's Kospi was virtually unchanged, inching up a fraction of 0.1 percent to 2,307.72. Hong Kong's Hang Seng was down 1.0 percent at 27,881.95, while the Shanghai Composite index fell nearly 0.1 percent to 2,735.51.

TRADE WORRIES: Worries about the recent trans-Pacific trade fiction have hurt Asian markets. Bloomberg News said the U.S. government was getting ready to ramp up its trade dispute with China. It has been threatening to tax \$200 billion in Chinese imports for several months, which would represent a major escalation in the trade fight. The report sent shares falling on Wall Street.

WALL STREET: The S&P 500 index lost 12.91 points, or 0.4 percent, to 2,901.13. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 137.65 points, or 0.5 percent, to 25,986.92. The Nasdaq composite slid 21.32 points, or 0.3 percent, to 8,088.36. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks dipped 2.40 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,732.35.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "It is undoubtedly a morning of decline for Asia markets following the setback seen overnight on Wall Street from the bout of political tensions," says Jingyi Pan, market strategist at IG in Singapore.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude fell 2 cents to \$70.23 a barrel. It gained 1.4 percent to \$70.25 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, dipped 3 cents to \$77.99 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar fell to 111.01 yen from 111.58 yen. The euro fell to \$1.1666 from \$1.1688.

Follow Yuri Kageyama on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/yurikageyama>

Her work can be found at <https://www.apnews.com/search/yuri%20kageyama>

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Friday, Aug. 31, the 243rd day of 2018. There are 122 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 31, 1972, at the Munich Summer Olympics, American swimmer Mark Spitz won his fourth and fifth gold medals in the 100-meter butterfly and 800-meter freestyle relay; Soviet gymnast Olga Korbut won gold medals in floor exercise and the balance beam.

On this date:

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 56 of 57

In 1886, an earthquake with an estimated magnitude of 7.3 devastated Charleston, South Carolina, killing at least 60 people, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

In 1939, the first issue of Marvel Comics, featuring the Human Torch, was published by Timely Publications in New York.

In 1954, Hurricane Carol hit the northeastern Atlantic states; Connecticut, Rhode Island and part of Massachusetts bore the brunt of the storm, which resulted in some 70 deaths.

In 1965, the U.S. House of Representatives joined the Senate in voting to establish the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In 1969, boxer Rocky Marciano died in a light airplane crash in Iowa, a day before his 46th birthday.

In 1980, Poland's Solidarity labor movement was born with an agreement signed in Gdansk (guh-DANSK') that ended a 17-day-old strike.

In 1986, 82 people were killed when an Aeromexico jetliner and a small private plane collided over Ceritos, California. The Soviet passenger ship Admiral Nakhimov collided with a merchant vessel in the Black Sea, causing both to sink; up to 448 people reportedly died.

In 1987, the Michael Jackson album "Bad" was released by Epic Records.

In 1991, Uzbekistan (ooz-bek-ih-STAHN') and Kyrgyzstan (keer-gih-STAHN') declared their independence, raising to ten the number of republics seeking to secede from the Soviet Union.

In 1992, white separatist Randy Weaver surrendered to authorities in Naples, Idaho, ending an 11-day siege by federal agents that had claimed the lives of Weaver's wife, son and a deputy U.S. marshal. (Weaver was acquitted of murder and all other charges in connection with the confrontation; he was convicted of failing to appear for trial on firearms charges and was sentenced to 18 months in prison but given credit for 14 months he'd already served.)

In 1994, the Irish Republican Army declared a cease-fire. Russia officially ended its military presence in the former East Germany and the Baltics after half a century.

In 1997, Prince Charles brought Princess Diana home for the last time, escorting the body of his former wife to a Britain that was shocked, grief-stricken and angered by her death in a Paris traffic accident earlier that day.

Ten years ago: With Hurricane Gustav approaching New Orleans, Mayor Ray Nagin (NAY'-gin) pleaded with the last of its residents to get out, imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew on those who were staying and warned looters they would be sent directly to prison.

Five years ago: Short of support at home and allies abroad, President Barack Obama stepped back from a missile strike against Syria and instead asked Congress to support a strike against President Bashar Assad's regime for suspected use of chemical weapons. British television interviewer David Frost, 74, died aboard a cruise ship bound for the Mediterranean.

One year ago: Rescuers began a block-by-block search of tens of thousands of Houston homes, looking for anyone who might have been left behind in the floodwaters from Hurricane Harvey. The Trump administration ordered Russia to close its consulate in San Francisco and offices in Washington and New York, intensifying tensions between Washington and Moscow; Russia was given 48 hours to comply. Iraq's prime minister said the northern town of Tal Afar had been "fully liberated" from the Islamic State group after a nearly two-week operation. The scope of the fake accounts scandal at Wells Fargo expanded, with the bank now saying 3.5 million accounts may have been opened without customers' permission.

Today's Birthdays: Japanese monster movie actor Katsumi Tezuka ("Godzilla") is 106. Baseball Hall of Famer Frank Robinson is 83. Actor Warren Berlinger is 81. Rock musician Jerry Allison (Buddy Holly and the Crickets) is 79. Actor Jack Thompson is 78. Violinist Itzhak Perlman is 73. Singer Van Morrison is 73. Rock musician Rudolf Schenker (The Scorpions) is 70. Actor Richard Gere is 69. Actor Stephen Henderson is 69. Olympic gold medal track and field athlete Edwin Moses is 63. Rock singer Glenn Tilbrook (Squeeze) is 61. Rock musician Gina Schock (The Go-Go's) is 61. Singer Tony DeFranco (The DeFranco Family) is 59. Rhythm-and-blues musician Larry Waddell (Mint Condition) is 55. Actor Jaime P. Gomez is 53. Former baseball pitcher Hideo Nomo is 50. Rock musician Jeff Russo (Tonic) is 49. Singer-composer Deborah Gibson is 48. Rock musician Greg Richling (Wallflowers) is 48. Actor Zack Ward is 48. Golfer Pdraig Har-

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 053 ~ 57 of 57

rington is 47. Actor Chris Tucker is 46. Actress Sara Ramirez is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Tamara (Trina & Tamara) is 41.

Thought for Today: "Good people are good because they've come to wisdom through failure. We get very little wisdom from success, you know." — William Saroyan, American author and playwright (born this date in 1908, died 1981).